

THE  
**Library Journal**

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

CHIEFLY DEVOTED TO

**Library Economy and Bibliography**

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NOVEMBER, 1902.

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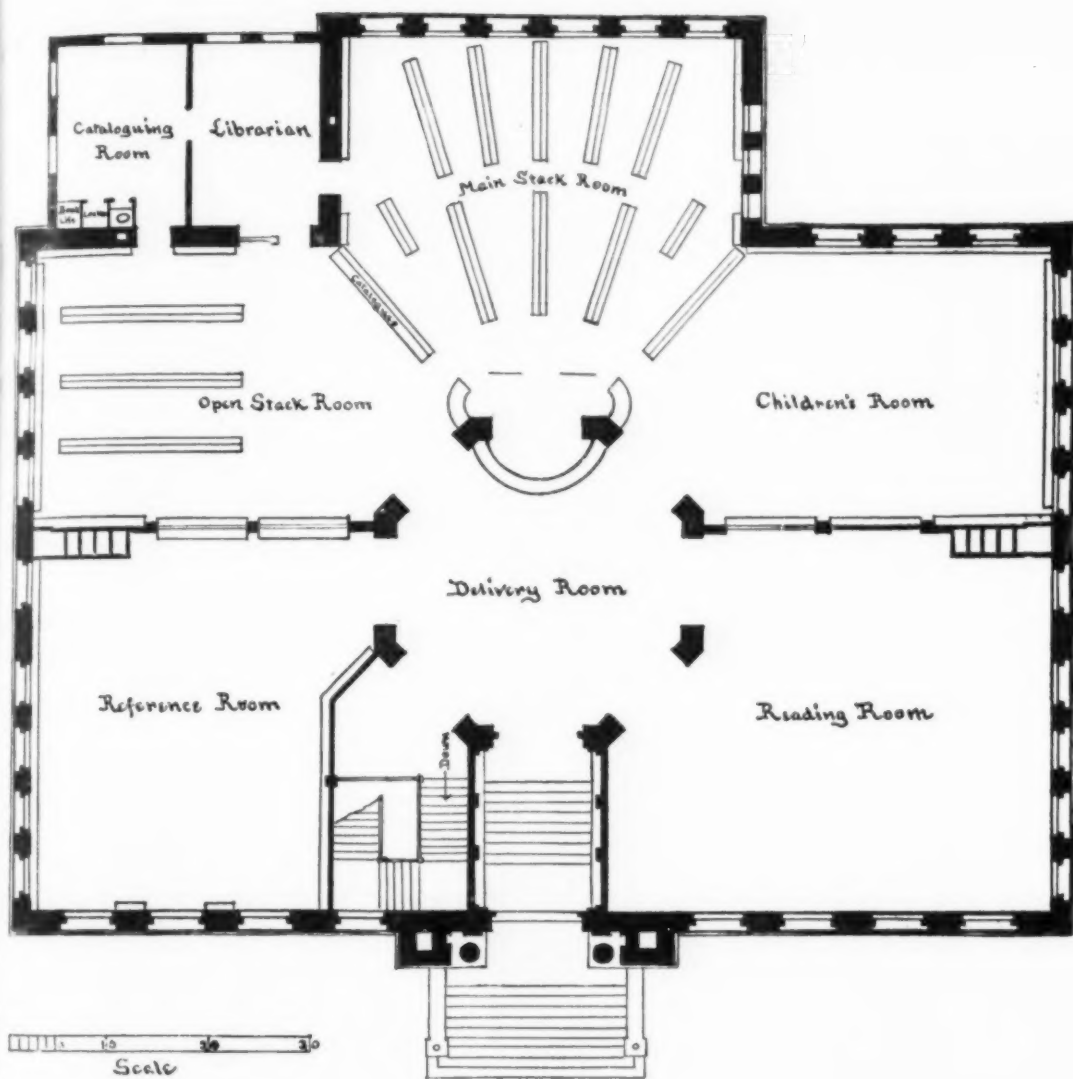
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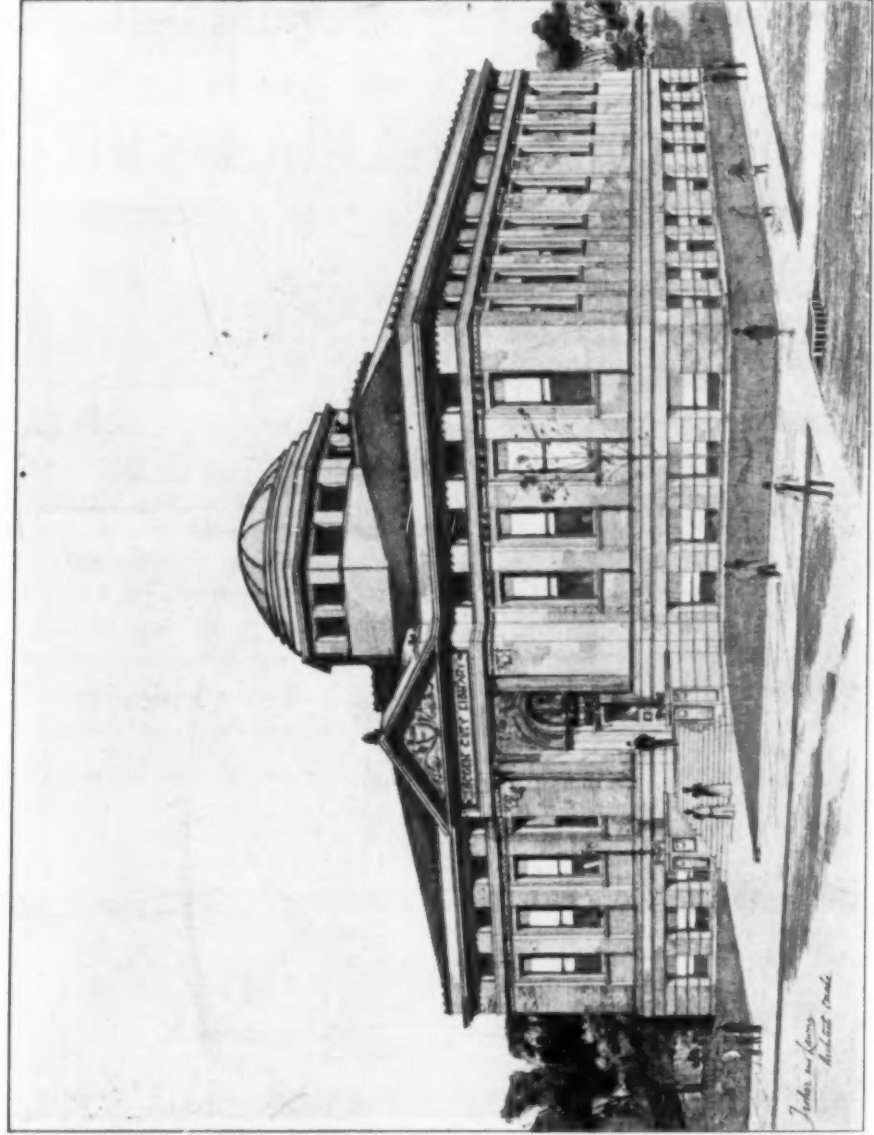
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# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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SIMPLE as were the exercises at the laying of the cornerstone of the New York Public Library building the other day, they were doubly impressive, for they marked the completion of one great undertaking and the formal beginning of a second. Only those familiar with the history of library development in New York City within the last few years can appreciate how remarkable are the results accomplished, and how great a change has been brought about in the attitude of the city toward library interests. Mayor Low in his address paid a fitting tribute to the clear-sightedness, sagacity and public spirit which made possible the federation of the separate library foundations, whereby alone a public library worthy of the city was secured; and these same qualities have been dominant in the period of its later development. With its absorption of the free circulating library system, formerly supported largely through private efforts, and the acceptance by the city of Mr. Carnegie's magnificent offer of branch buildings, the public library organization has been rounded to completeness. There remains the practical carrying out of this great scheme of organization, the upbuilding of the library as a center for students and scholars and as a great instrument of public education. The completion of the stately building in Bryant Park will be the first great step in this second stage of the library's development, for it will give the foundation and equipment without which any scheme of organization must remain largely theoretical. All who have library interests at heart will look forward eagerly to the day, in the near future let us hope, when that step shall be taken, and the New York Public Library is able to reach out with multiplied efficiency into the wide field of usefulness and inspiration so admirably described by Mayor Low.

IN other large cities besides New York library organization is taking a significant trend. What is foreshadowed is the development in such cities of a library system,

paralleling in a measure the public school system, and coming at varied points into direct contact with the life of the community. This movement may be traced between the lines in recent reports of such libraries as the Boston Public, the New York Public, the St. Louis Public, and others of the same rank, and it will receive remarkable impetus within the next two or three years as a result of the Carnegie gifts made to Detroit, St. Louis, New York, Cincinnati, and other cities for the establishment of branch library systems. For the branch library will be the main factor in this development, and the organization and administration of branches is becoming one of the most important of the librarian's problems. At Boston last year the circulation from branches, delivery stations and like agencies was nearly four times as large as the circulation from the main library, and this is becoming the common experience. The public library, in the larger cities at least, has entered upon a new and most interesting phase of development, which cannot fail to have far-reaching results.

NOTABLE in the library chronicle of the month was the Bodleian Tercentenary celebration at Oxford. It was alike memorable for the distinguished gathering assembled to do honor to the memory of Sir Thomas Bodley and to his noble foundation, and for the opportunity it afforded of a perspective view of the influence of a great library upon the intellectual life of successive generations. The exercises were of the true Oxford temper—dignified, conservative, brilliant by inherent qualities but marked by no elaborate preparations. A pleasant feature was the extending of greetings from sister universities of Great Britain, the continent, and America, among the representatives of the latter being the librarians of Cornell and Columbia universities. Four American universities—Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia—were honored in degrees bestowed upon their representatives, among whom it is pleasant to record the name

of Dr. Canfield, librarian of Columbia. Our own libraries stand but as the creation of a day beside the timeworn walls of the Bodleian, but even the least of them may feel a kinship and a pride in the great Oxford library, for, as was said at the Tercentenary exercises, "Bodley wrought for Oxford first and England, but also for the world, the wide commonwealth of letters."

It is hard to say what will be the outcome of the discount question. So far the case has gone against the libraries, and the letter of Mr. Scribner, submitted elsewhere by the chairman of the A. L. A. committee on relations of libraries with the book trade, gives little encouragement for the future. Evidently the opposition of the booksellers has outweighed the representations of the librarians, and the Publishers' Association appears disposed to shelve the matter indefinitely. It is unlikely that the librarians will be content to let the subject rest in this way. It is too vital, especially in its effect upon the many smaller public libraries, which have less money and more limited opportunities for bookbuying than the large libraries. In the nature of the case the librarians are at a disadvantage; no effective substitute for books as the basis of their work has yet been invented, and publishers and dealers may be, and probably are, serenely confident that books will continue to be bought by libraries whether discounts are increased or not. American librarians are not alone in their predicament. In Germany and in Great Britain the libraries have begun a vigorous campaign to secure more liberal discounts, but so far with little success. The American Library Association, however, is not likely to let the matter drop, and it is to be hoped that through its efforts library discounts may yet be placed upon a more satisfactory footing.

### Communications.

#### GOETHE AUTOGRAPHS DESIRED.

THERE is reason to believe that in American libraries and private collections there are still many unpublished autographs, etc., of Goethe, which, for the sake of future scholars, should be published or referred to in the monumental Weimar edition of Goethe's complete works, diaries, and letters, still in progress under the protection of H. R. H. the Grand Duke of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach, with the

active co-operation of the Goethe Gesellschaft and of many scholars and specialists.

Therefore on behalf of all who are interested in this great undertaking, I earnestly beg all librarians and others who think that there is a chance of their having any such autographs or other similar matter, however insignificant apparently, to look these up as soon as possible, and to urge others to do likewise, and send us *accurate* copies, together with short notes by way of description and history of the original, as far as known, stating carefully what portions are in Goethe's own handwriting, for he usually employed a secretary. (A good photograph of an original is, when obtainable, always preferable to a transcription.)

Similarly autographs of Eckermann, Goethe's secretary, and any of Carlyle that may refer to either Goethe or Eckermann, are much to be desired in this connection.

Very often the name of the person addressed does not appear at all on the face of the original letter itself, but as this Archiv possesses all of Goethe's papers, the addressee's name may frequently be determined from sketches of the letters preserved by the writer, or otherwise. Full credit will, of course, be given to all who send us copies, and if, for example, we can determine the name of the person addressed the sender will be notified of that fact.

Those whose sets of *Schriften der Goethe-Gesellschaft* are incomplete will be glad to know that the society will soon issue a reprint of vols. 1 and 2, which alone are out of print and have long been most difficult to obtain.

B. SUPHAN, *Director*,

GOETHE-SCHILLER-ARCHIV, {  
Weimar.

#### "ESTHER BURR'S JOURNAL."

DURING the past few months I have been asked several times about "Esther Burr's Journal," a charming little volume edited by President J. E. Rankin, of Howard University, published by the Howard University Press and sold by Woodward & Lothrop, of Washington, D. C. Perhaps the interest in the book, with which I have come in contact, is mainly local to Princeton, but as the title is rather misleading it may be of service also elsewhere to state that the "Journal" is, with the exception of one brief passage, entirely the work of Dr. Rankin. The excepted passage is the account of the Princeton revival. The rest of the "Journal" is merely based on a manuscript of Mrs. Burr, to which Dr. Rankin has had access and from which the revival account alone has been extracted. I write with no special desire to destroy so clever an illusion as this remarkably well-written "Journal," but merely that the true authorship may be recorded for those whom it may concern.

V. LANSING COLLINS.

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY {  
LIBRARY.

## REFERENCE WORK FROM THE LIBRARIAN'S POINT OF VIEW.\*

BY CORINNE BACON, *New Britain (Ct.) Institute Library.*

WHAT is "the librarian's point of view"? Is there but one? It seems to me that the point of view is conditioned, both by the librarian and the library in which she works, and that the number of ways of looking at the subject is equal to the number of librarians engaged in the work.

The point of view here taken is that of a librarian in a library of from 15,000 to 20,000 volumes, where there were for some years but two librarians, and where consequently the duties of each were as all-embracing as the duties of the railroad employee, who, when reprimanded for negligence, versed his woes as follows:

"Oh, I am a train and a station hand,  
And a flagman as tends a switch,  
And a ticket-seller, and a handy feller,  
And I don't know mostly which!"

Each of us was reference librarian—and a great many other things as well. To this valuable experience I have recently added a brief term of service in the reference department of a library of some 400,000 volumes.

I fear that I shall be unable to set forth any new truth concerning reference work. All that I can do will be to emphasize certain truths, familiar and self-evident, which loom up especially on my horizon; and to set forth the subject in an orderly fashion, it may be well to take up in sequence (1) the worker, or reference librarian; (2) her materials and methods of work; (3) those for whom she works—the public.

If anything is impressed upon us nowadays, it is the seriousness of our profession as librarians, the importance, nay, the necessity of attaining physical, mental and moral perfection. After listening to such preaching, one feels almost sorry for the unfortunates who inhabited our little planet before the modern librarian appeared to teach them how to live! Are we not taking ourselves too seriously? Why should we insist upon shouldering the whole burden of the well-

being of the universe? There are others—parents, teachers, doctors, ministers, legislators—with whom we may and ought to share the responsibility. Why should not mothers take at least as much thought for what goes into their children's minds as for what goes into their stomachs? And is the printed page the only influence at work upon humanity?

But this heresy is leading us astray from our subject. Suppose we grant that librarians in general ought to be perfect, then what shall we require of the reference librarian? It seems to me that she should then be what an old French teacher used to mark his pupils when they had an unusually good lesson—"More than perfect." For is not the reference department the heart of the library? It is well to provide men, women and children with the literature of power and with the literature of amusement, but the function of the library in both of these directions is necessarily limited. The books which serve for inspiration should be owned, they can never do all that it is in their power to do for the reader while on a fortnight's visit from a library, while the amount of ephemeral light literature purchasable by most libraries is strictly conditioned by the paucity of funds available for new books of this type. The reference department, which purchases for the many, books too expensive for any one man to buy for the limited use he is likely to make of them, which supplements and continues the work of the school, is, in the eyes of many taxpayers, the sole justification of the tax-supported library. This department therefore calls for a high grade of service, and even though the librarian in charge of it cannot attain unto perfection, still there are a few qualifications which seem to be essential to the proper discharge of the duties of her office.

The reference librarian should first and foremost

*Be approachable.* There are some people who are reservoirs of knowledge, and yet all their wisdom is of no avail to the man who wants information, because their manner is so forbidding that the average man would as

\* Read before Connecticut Library Association, Oct. 15, 1902.

soon face a Gatling gun as ask them a question. Cultivate a pleasant, easy manner of meeting people on their own ground. This does not mean to cultivate the grin of the Cheshire cat. It is quite possible to make oneself too agreeable. It is not necessary to be "keepin' your face in smilin' order like a grocer o' market-day, for fear people shouldna think you civil enough!"

*Be omniscient.* If you can't be omniscient, be as omniscient as you can. You never thought or said or learned or did anything which may not some day be of use to you in your reference capacity. Have you built a boat, or sailed one? Made a pudding, or taught a Sunday-school class? Studied conic sections, or specialized in abnormal psychology? Climbed the Alps, or experimented upon yourself with mushrooms? You are sure to want some day whatever knowledge you have gained in these ways, or in any others.

*Be tactful.* A keen insight into human nature, the power to read people quickly, the tact which tells us when to offer and when to withhold help, and how we may often help without the appearance of doing so, are invaluable qualities to the reference librarian. It will not do to make the mistake of thinking that an intelligent person needs no assistance in order that he may successfully wrestle with card catalog, indexes and bibliographies. People of far greater intellectual ability than the librarian may not, generally do not, know how to use the librarian's tools. And even if the public do know the use of these things, they are not likely, when left to themselves, to take the short and royal road to knowledge. It is one of the hardest problems which confronts us—the problem of deciding when to offer assistance—of striking the happy mean between the attitude of the sphinx and the attitude of a Cook's guide. One of the most intelligent women in town walked into my library one day and asked for Poole's index. I thought to myself, "That woman is one of the few who know just what they want. I'll not question her. I'll simply give her what she asks for." So for the space of one hour I carried out bound magazines as she called for them—all to no purpose. Finally, in a burst of confidence, she told me what she was trying to find. Inside of two minutes I was able to put a book into her hand which made her exclaim in delight: "Why, this is exactly what I wanted!" I had wasted an hour

of her time and an hour of mine because I was afraid of seeming officious and inquisitive if I asked such an intelligent woman just what she wanted.

It is equally easy to err on the other side. I remember carefully explaining to a school-girl, who asked for some antiquated books of science, that those books were unreliable and that I could give her some much more up to date, only to find out that she was preparing an essay on old scientific text-books, and wanted the very things which I was so eager to prevent her from having.

The quality which I should place next to tact is *patience*—the patience of Job. Yea, more than the patience of Job, for the public, however foolish, flighty and unreasonable, may never be taken to task by its humble servant as Job took to task the Almighty. I do not go so far, however, as to set up patient Griselda for a model, for I think that there should be a limit to the long suffering of even the reference librarian. There was a teacher in our town who sent in the following list of questions with a request that we should within twenty-four hours get out all the books and articles in the library bearing upon every one of them, as she would like the class to look over the material in order to decide upon which subjects they would prefer to write. This is the list:

1. Is the Cuban capable of self-government?
2. The bearing of the Monroe doctrine upon the questions of the day.
3. The influence of art on character.
4. International arbitration as a preventive of war.
5. Journalism as a profession.
6. The influence of music upon a community.
7. What the musical world owes to Germany.
8. Noted rides in history.
9. Historic churches.
10. The necessity of methods in modern campaigning.
11. The effect of the present methods of campaigning.
12. Are the present political methods justifiable?
13. Warships of the twentieth century.
14. Problems confronting Greater New York.
15. Our next really great electrical invention.

This was too much. The worm (otherwise reference librarian) turned and told the teacher that if she would decide which sub-

jects the class were to write upon, the material should be speedily forthcoming, but that it would be impossible to hunt up all the references on those fifteen subjects. It was rather puzzling anyway to know just what material one could offer on "Our next really great electrical invention" before it was invented.

It goes without saying that one must have the persistence of a sleuthhound when on the trail of a fact, must be accurate, and must be thoroughly familiar with the tools of her trade.

It is also necessary to form the newspaper habit. A librarian who does not read the daily papers loses many opportunities of usefulness. It is especially desirable to read the local papers, and in every possible way to gain a thorough knowledge of your town. I fear that the model librarian often held up for our admiration, who knows all the ministers, teachers, editors, political bosses, members of the school board, labor leaders, officers of the woman's club, and of all other clubs and classes, religious and secular, is a myth. A woman in the ordinary small library who should attempt to add all this outside work of keeping in touch with everybody and everything to her required eight hours or more in the library, would certainly have very few hours left for eating and sleeping, and though she might cut down her allowance of food and rest for a time with impunity, she would soon do what the old horse did just as he was nicely trained to live on a straw a day — "up and die!"

Nevertheless, a great deal can be done if you will only read the papers and thus keep in touch with what is going on. Is there a smallpox epidemic, necessitating the erection of an isolation hospital? Send the chairman of the committee on construction that recent book you bought on "Epidemics and isolation hospitals." It will never occur to him to come and ask whether you have any such book in the library. Is the town considering a new method of sewage disposal? See that those who are to determine what system shall be adopted know the resources of the library on the subject. Is a noted man about to lecture in town? Put up a portrait bulletin with a list of all of his books that are in the library, and if possible a few references to the man himself. Have you a G.

A. R. post? Send it a carefully prepared reading list of your books on the Civil war. Perhaps I am now trespassing upon the preserves of what would be in a large library the loan department, but in the small library the work cannot be divided on any hard and fast lines.

Given the qualities of approachableness, omniscience, tact, patience, persistence, accuracy, knowledge of one's tools, knowledge of one's town, and familiarity with current events, yet all is not said. Last, but by no means least, the reference librarian should possess a sense of humor. It will lengthen her days, as well as add materially to the comfort of the public. It is better to be able to smile than to be irritated at the foolishness of a teacher when she sends a boy presumably aged ten to you for material for a composition on "The duties of parents," or "The nature and choice of a procession." (The boy evidently varied that last subject slightly.) The child who asks you for the "Anthropology of poetry" in order that she may look up a piece to speak, and that other who demands "The laws of New Britain against trees" when he wishes to look up local ordinances bearing upon tree protection, will add to your joy in life, and enable you to be more polite to the next bore who victimizes you.

Secondly, as to methods and materials of work. The reference books proper should be as compactly arranged as possible. Extra copies of books circulated, but also necessary in reference work, should be provided for the reference room. My own experience indicates that one can do better work with a few well-selected books under one's hand, than with a greater number scattered over a considerable area. When books needed are located in different rooms, perhaps widely separated, so that the intervention of runners is necessary, it is harder to do satisfactory work, than where immediate personal inspection of the books is possible.

While indexes and bibliographies should be freely bought so far as they are of use, there are many which are not of sufficient value to the small library to make it worth one's while to invest in them, because so few of the books listed are in the library. A complete bibliography of a subject is generally less useful than a well-selected and annotated



list. The thing that we usually want to know is what are the few *best* books and articles on a given subject, and the complete, unannotated bibliography has usually been of greater use to the compiler than it is ever likely to be to any one else. And no bibliography can ever take the place, in public library work, of the librarian who knows her books.

The usefulness of magazines as substitutes for and supplements to books, their superiority to books in scientific work, because the scientific book is out of date before it can be put upon the market, their value in getting up debates, etc., is, I think, generally understood. I wonder whether the desirability of indexing certain articles in them as soon as the magazines are received, is equally well understood?

The Astor Library used to (and may still) index periodicals as soon as received, placing the slips in its card catalog, and withdrawing them at the end of the year upon the arrival of Poole. Few libraries can afford anything so elaborate as this. But if there be a librarian here who does not and cannot take the "Cumulative index," I feel sure that it will pay her to index on cards for her own use whatever magazines she takes. Before the issue of the Cumulative, we used to do that in our library, and were well repaid for our trouble. Since taking the Cumulative, we have continued to index certain articles likely to be called for in our town. For example, certain subjects which come up pretty regularly for debate in the schools each year, are kept up to date by the addition of current articles on those subjects to existing reference lists.

It is natural to go on from this to speak of the importance of keeping notes of the lairs of facts once painfully run to earth. The few minutes spent in making a permanent note for your card index of the sources of information which it has been difficult for you to find, is never wasted. What one man wanted to know to-day, someone else is pretty sure to want to know a few months hence.

The importance of working through the newspapers also needs to be emphasized. If the editors are friendly, it is possible to print lists of books and interesting paragraphs about the library which will lure many a citizen to the reference room.

Thirdly, the public. The public may be divided into three classes:

(1.) The select few who know just what they want, state their want with clearness and expect you to meet it. It is a joy to work for them.

(2.) The people who expect nothing of you, apologize for disturbing you, and break out into a fever of gratitude over the slightest assistance. These are amusing.

(3.) The people who expect you to do all their work for them. These are irritating.

Still they are all good fellows in the main, with more virtues than I can take time to point out. Let me rather dilate upon a few of their failings—express a few wishes of the reference librarian concerning certain of them. The librarian wishes

*That they would learn to know what they want.* So many people are like the woman who wanted to study up the settlement of Ireland for her club, but didn't know whether she wanted books on the earliest or the Danish or the Cromwellian colonization; or like the woman who went into a Chicago library and said that she wanted a book which would tell her how to be a virtuoso! The librarian tried to ascertain a little more definitely what was wanted, and was answered as follows: "Oh, I don't know. I heard a virtuoso was a good thing to be, and I just thought I'd like to be one. Haven't you a book that will tell me how?"

If a man knows what he wants, even though he can express himself to you but vaguely, he has taken one step towards simplifying your problem. The man who asked for "a book about a man who appropriated everything he saw. If he saw a castle, it was his because he enjoyed it. There was a good deal in it about his wife," helped the librarian materially to a lucky guess that the book wanted was Curtis's "Prue and I."

*That they would conquer their reluctance to tell you what they want, when they do happen to know.* I have never yet been able to understand the secretiveness of the average individual when he confronts a reference librarian! He could not be more reticent about his debts or his love affairs than he is about the fact he wishes to ascertain. One would almost think that he considered it indecent to state baldly what he wanted. He will ask you for a United States history, and

shake his head over all that you offer, until he finally decides as a forlorn hope to reveal to you his exact want, and tells you that what he is after is something about the battle of Gettysburg. Whereupon you produce the book desired.

*That they would not tell you that they know where certain information is to be found when they don't.* That makes you lose time. One soon learns, however, that when a man says he wants an article on Hawaii which appeared in *Harper's* for 1893, it is much more likely to be found in *Scribner's* for 1889 (or somewhere else), and that it saves time to look first in Poole.

*That they would cultivate a willingness to use their own brains, instead of requiring that their mental food be predigested.* Do you recall what Mr. Dooley says about reading? "The thruth is that readin' is th' next thing this side iv goin' to bed fr restin' th' mind. With most people it takes th' place iv wurruk. A man doesn't think whin he's readin', or if he has to, th' book is no fun. Believe me, Hinmissy, readin' is not thinkin'. It seems like it, an' whin it comes out in talk sometimes, it sounds like it. It's a kind iv nearthought that looks ginooyne to th' thoughtless, but ye can't get annything on it." Now Mr. Dooley's idea of reading is the idea a good many people have about studying up a subject in a library. They don't want to think when they're doing it or it's "no fun." They will indulge in "a kind iv nearthought," but if there is any real thinking to be done, they prefer that the librarian should do it. Now while we are glad to furnish the man with tools wherewith to build his house, he really has no right to expect us to build the house for him.

I wonder whether we as a people are losing the power to think our own thoughts on a subject, and to deal with it in an independent, original way? Perhaps not. It may be only that nowadays every one reads, and writes papers, and indulges in debate, so while there may be as many people as there ever were who can stand squarely on their own feet, and look steadily out of their own eyes, and form their own conclusions, these are lost sight of in the countless multitude who prefer a second-hand article in thought. The reference librarian is frequently and sadly

struck by the number of people who refuse to attack a subject for themselves, but are very eager to know what others have thought and said about it. Often the very teachers, whether through lack of time or of training I will not attempt to decide, are unwilling to deal with the simplest sort of original material, from which they may select and boil down what they want, but insist upon a book which will give them the information in the exact form in which they intend to present it to their pupils. And their pupils too often prepare for composition or debate by copying what they half understand from encyclopedias and magazine articles, instead of thinking for themselves along the lines suggested. This induces mental indolence, and, to quote Mr. Dooley once more, the state of the man who "so doped himself with books that he'd stumble over a carpet-tack!" Of course the schools should not put a premium upon this sort of thing. But neither should the reference librarian.

*That people would treat books properly.* The librarian who quails not before the man who wants to know what proportion of the fresh water of the globe pours over Niagara Falls yearly, or what was the old English form of the freedom of the city, or what determines the rate of wages, or what are the recent changes in the customs of the English court as to ostrich plumes, or in what month and day Shrove Tuesday fell in 1820; and who is ready to furnish information upon a wide range of subjects, from the addresses of the manufacturers of envelope-making machines, to "the dog in mythology and in the Bible," will yet shrink from suggesting ever so politely to a woman who is ruining the "Century dictionary," that she should handle it a little more carefully. The boldness of a lion is needed to do this at all, and the craftiness of Machiavelli is needed to do it without offence.

Lastly, the reference librarian wishes humbly, knowing that she is wishing for the impossible, *that the people wouldn't all come at once.* If the man who wants everything that the library contains upon landscape gardening, and the woman who wants references for a club paper on "The causes of pauperism," would only delay their coming until you have gotten out the books on "Govern-



ment control of railroads" for the Y. M. C. A. debate, and a few references on "What the 19th century has done for women" for the High School girls, uninterrupted except for a call to the desk now and then to translate an Italian word, or tell the cost of a seat in the New York Stock Exchange, or suggest some new and pleasing entertainment for the Methodist Church, or help your new assistant by telling her what the boy wants who is calling for "Eugene's book of western verse," or the woman who is demanding "Various fairs" [Vanity Fair], or the man who is clamoring for "Dewent's origin of insects" [Darwin's origin of species], or the novel "Ben she." But no, it always pours inquirers when it rains at all, and the reference librarian who cannot, outwardly serene as a matter of course, and inwardly serene if possible, attend to at least six things simultaneously, might better leave the profession.

Before closing I want to make a brief plea for reasonably short hours of work.

"There was a young student of Tyre,  
Who said, 'Tis my constant desire  
To work night and day,  
For it bores me to play'—  
Now was he a prig or a liar?"

I think that he was both—and something of a fool into the bargain. There is a limit to all human endurance. The more exacting ones work is, the briefer should be the period of labor. The reference librarian cannot maintain the required mental keenness, concentration and agility of mind, and serenity of temper demanded by the work, for many hours at a stretch.

I have held up my ideal for the librarian, and my ideal for the public. We fall far short of our own ideals, and the public for whom we so gladly work fall far short of our ideals for them. "I'm not denyin' the women are foolish," said Mrs. Poyser, "God Almighty made 'em to match the men."

"I'm not denyin' the reference librarians are faulty," we may say, "God Almighty made 'em to match the public!"

## LIBRARY BOOK PLATES.

BY HENRY W. KENT.

THE mild contempt or undisguised amusement of the average librarian towards that harmless occupation known as book plate collecting has always puzzled me. Just why such an attitude is taken it would be difficult to say. Perhaps the weightier matters of counting readers' noses and of making up self-satisfying statistics leave little time for the cultivation of the amenities of library work. Collecting book plates is not a serious vocation, of course, but few, we hope, regard it as more than an avocation. Whatever may be the motive that inspires the collector the lessons to be learned from his collection are always entertaining and sometimes valuable, even to librarians.

Without going into details, without mentioning what these entertaining points are, leaving all that to the enthusiastic genealogist, bibliophile and artist, we will consider merely what are the instructive points which the librarian might gain from half an hour's

examination of the book plate collector's specimens.

There are few librarians probably, even of the statistical kind, who are not called upon at one time or another in their careers to apply themselves to the difficult task of devising a book plate. It may be for the library which they have been called, fresh from some library school, to organize, or it may be a special label for some collection within the *omnium gatherum* they preside over, or it may be a plate to record a recent valuable gift. The usual method of procedure, if we may judge by specimens too frequently met with, is to call in the local printer (does he not advertise to do "artistic printing"?) and to throw the whole matter upon his willing shoulders, beseeching him to let loose his art. His artistic sense being tickled, he proceeds, in the five or six lines necessary to the announcement that the book is the property of The Fag End Library of

Fag End, and the gift of the Reverend Mr. Blow, to use as many different styles of type, all of them as unlike as possible—a line of monumental Gothic, one of "Satanic," or Kelmscott, one of Caslon and another of Jensen's designing. Italics and Roman, capitals and lower case letters are jumbled together in a helter-skelter mass. If the library owns a seal the printer will introduce this also into the composition. Then, when printed on paper selected from the stock which supplies the local theatre with hand bills and serves to announce the opening of ice cream parlors, the plate will be ready to be pasted into the books, and examples will be offered for exchange by the young lady assistant who is "just starting" a collection of her own. There are, no doubt, some lady librarians who would add a colored capital letter to the variegated type of the printer, in the manner of the initials used by a certain E. Hubbard at his Art Book Factory somewhere out in darkest New York. Such a lady might even like to go further and order a real design from a hard-up designer of her acquaintance—something which would have on it a nude male figure of Strength, a draped female figure of Learning, an owl, a marble hall vista, a bookworm, or symbols of Art, Science and Literature. She might do this unless she were turned from her course by the reference librarian who, having had experience with classical dictionaries and dictionaries of quotations, would know how short life is and how long Art can be.

But, to be serious and to point the lesson of the book plate collection. A public library book plate is most appropriately made with printing types, and the reason is too obvious to even mention. There is no more fitting method of expressing the fact "*ex libris Bibliotheca Thingumabobla*," none which may be so pure a piece of decoration, and none so cheap even in its most expensive form, as plain print. The designed or picture plate is expensive in its first cost and, if engraved either on wood or copper, is entirely out of the reach of the ordinary library, while the photo-mechanical processes, if cheap, are in questionable taste.

The type itself ought to be the clearest and so, of course, the simplest to be found; and if none at once clear and simple is to be had

in the local printer's office, the librarian should insist upon having a new font ordered. He will undoubtedly have other occasions for its use in his bulletins, circulars and announcements; unless as seems to be too often the case, he regards this privilege of upholding a good standard of printing with the same indifference he displays towards book plates. It would be better not to indulge in faddish type upon a book plate which must stand for many years, but to use those logically developed and physiologically reasonable types which great printers, as well as the educated eye, tell us are good. The archaic and impracticable types of the poet-printer, William Morris, find many admirers and imitators, especially among so-called "artistic printers" and managers of private presses whose books are never read, but it seems probable that they represent only a passing fad and as such will undoubtedly soon go out of use. One style of type only should be used on a plate and as few sizes of that type as may be necessary to clearness and emphasis.

The book plate should follow the shape of the average book cover, that is, it should be taller than it is wide, to fit octavo, quarto and folio. It is a very good plan to have several sizes of plates. The average or octavo plate should be kept as small as the size of the type chosen and a properly proportioned margin will allow, because, as even an average librarian will know, it takes more paste and more time to stick on a big label than a small one.

After the type has been chosen, the most important matter is the composition of the lines and of the words in the lines. The words should be so arranged that the most striking shall stand out clearly. This can be accomplished either by a larger type or by dividing the lines so that the main words may stand by themselves. But, however the lines are broken up, it should be done with an eye to the geometrical shape of the whole, for upon this the general decorative effect of the plate depends. Like the title pages of the 16th century books, the outline of the composition may be square, oblong, diamond or vase-shaped, and much ingenuity may be expended upon it.

A paper which can be written on with ink, which will not absorb the paste quickly, and

which will remain flat when pasted without curling up over the brush of the paster, is best. A better grade might be used in permanent books than that used for duplicates or temporary volumes which are soon worn out and thrown away, but even here the newspaper or highly calendared papers should never find a place. Vellum, Japanese and Chinese papers are much in vogue for private libraries, but, like other soft papers, are difficult to write upon and cannot even be touched with an eraser. A good grade of uncalendered laid paper or a bond paper gives the best results and looks the best. Colored papers are in questionable taste, and there seems to be no real excuse for the departure from the time-honored white label which is generally in harmony with end papers of all colors.

The question of a seal or some device will often come up in making a plate but, as it is ten to one that this bit of ornament will be badly conceived and worse executed it may be given as a safe rule that the plate will be better off without it. One, two or three bordering lines may be successfully used in some cases, especially where the effect sought is that of a tablet.

In one case only is the exception to the rule of plain printing types advisable, and that is in book plates for those rapidly

growing collections called children's libraries. Here a designed or picture plate might be used with good results. But this matter of design in book plates is such a difficult one that I hesitate before mentioning it. There are few modern book plates, even those made by designers of ability, that are good in decoration. The cant, the silliness, the mock assumption of elegance and learning, the inaptness and the incongruity of most of them, would be pitiful if it was really a serious matter. For the children, use frankly a picture, not symbols or mythological subjects, and let the picture be in colors if possible. Do not use the cheap reproductive processes unless a wood block or lithograph is entirely out of the question. A picture need not obscure the purpose of the book plate but may, if properly used, emphasize it. Do not try to preach or to be goody-goody but say in an attractive way that "This book belongs to the Fag End Library." If a motto must be used, let clean hands be the subject rather than the pure heart.

To many this may all seem to be time and space wasted on a very small subject, but in nothing more than in printing does the saying ascribed to Michelangelo hold true, that trifles make perfection, but perfection is no trifle.

### LIBRARY ROTATION.

BY DREW B. HALL, *Librarian The Millicent Library, Fairhaven, Mass.*

EVERYONE acquainted with the use of public libraries knows the great numbers of worthy books unread by and unknown to the general reader. Although every shelf in the Millicent Library is free to all persons and there are specially good collections on engineering, the sciences, travel and biography, it was found that last year that fiction received over 75 per cent. of the circulation. Convinced that the very number of the books on the non-fiction shelves, the darkness of much of their stack, and the mysteries of a close classification, discouraged and repelled many persons who would have gladly read something more serious than the latest novel

if it were as easily found, we decided to try the plan called by Mr. Ballard, for want of a better name, "library rotation," and intended by successive monthly exhibitions of small all-round collections, no two including the same book, to bring some works of general interest into prominence.

A selection of books covering all subjects, whose backs and covers were as attractive as their contents were entertaining and trustworthy, were picked from the stack and placed in a neat bookcase in a conspicuous corner of the reading-room, a comfortable chair (there was room for only one) was put before it and a strong light above the chair;

notices were posted and printed in the local paper urging people to browse over the "rotation" collection, to take home the books on any congenial subject, and to read from the stacks or from succeeding selections those in the same line, for if two books were read from each selection, the twenty chosen in a year would give the persistent reader a good understanding of that subject.

In the selection some attempt was made to anticipate the interest likely to be shown in various classes, and it happened (following the Decimal classification) that three zeros were selected, twelve 100s, twenty-two 200s, twenty 300s, seven 400s, thirty-three 500s, eighteen 600s, sixteen 700s, twenty-one 800s, nineteen travels and history, and six biographies. During the first two weeks, 28 were taken home, including Quakenbos' "Hypnotism," Wingate's "What shall our boys do for a living," Dole's "Theology of civilization," Hyde's "God's education of man," van Dyke's "Gospel for a world of sin," Collyer's "Talks to young men," "Pilgrim's progress," Brooks' "New starts in life," Roosevelt's "Strenuous life," Washington's "Future of the American negro," Lubbock's "Beauties of nature," Sloane's "Liquid air," Wright's "Four-footed Americans," Miller's "First book of birds," Joaquin Miller's "True bear stories," Baker's "Boys' book of inventions," Winslow's "Concerning cats," Griffith's "Care of the baby," Bates' "Talks on writing English," Lang's "Blue poetry book," Dickinson's poems, Mathews' "Aspects of fiction," Stockton's "Buccaneers and pirates," Lynch's "French life in town and country," Crawford's "Ave Roma immortalis," Larned's "History of England," Rosebery's "Napoleon," Wharton's "Martha Washington." That is, two, or 16 2-3 per cent. of the 100s in the selection; six, or 27 per cent. 200s; two, or 10 per cent. 300s; five, or 15 per cent. 500s; three, or 16 2-3 per cent. 600s; four, or 19 per cent. 800s; four, or 21 per cent. travel and history, and two, or 33 per cent. biography. Thirty-five volumes more were drawn from the remainder in the three weeks following, when a new selection was made.

This second case, exhibited from January 25 to March 11, contained larger per cents. of 100s, 500s, travel and biography. By the latter date 100 of its 154 volumes had proved attractive to home readers. The third selec-

tion, with more travel and biography, circulated in five weeks 85 of its 146 volumes.

A fourth exhibit of 155 works, ending May 24, sent out in the first two weeks 41 books, 20 per week, and 35 in the remaining three, 12 per week. The decline in volumes per week, and a falling off in the interest shown by casual readers, lead me to the conclusion that three weeks is long enough for the exhibition of a selection of less than 175 volumes. Of the 76 drawn, one book was a zero, a showing of 50 per cent., as there were but two in the case; six, or 51 per cent. 100s; nine, or 75 per cent. 200s; 10, or 66 per cent. 300s; seven, or 70 per cent. 500s; four, or 33 1-3 per cent. 600s; two, or 16 per cent. 700s; 14, or 50 per cent. 800s; 15, or 65 per cent. travel and history; and 11, or 37 per cent. biography.

These four exhibits, averaging 157 volumes each, brought so prominently to notice 630 books that would hardly have been found otherwise, that 35, 65, 58 and 40 per cent. of the respective collections were drawn for home use. The low per cent. of the first was due probably to the fact that it was the first, to its extending over the holidays, and to inexperience with local readers' preferences, which prove in general to be for popular scientific books suitable to the season, and for travel and biography; in particular two or three constant readers draw the philosophy, religion and economics. Though 322 of these volumes were circulated, it seems a very small number when compared with the total circulation, 66 times as great, for the same period. But this 1½ per cent. is distinctly encouraging in showing that many people care for serious reading if it is as easily obtainable as fiction and one-tenth as much advertised; and if the pleasure received from fiction and non-fiction is measured, not by the number of volumes of each circulated, but by the number of "hours enjoyment" to be had from each, the results of the "rotation" case are not at all meager. It has, moreover, encouraged more non-fiction reading than is indicated by the 1½ per cent. of the entire circulation taken from it; for in four months, January to April, 1902, (during which the "rotation" case has been in operation) the fiction drawn was eight per cent. less than in the same four months of 1901, leaving a decrease of 6½ per cent. in fiction read to be accounted for partly by the

indirect influence of the case, and partly by other causes less important.

There is something of the "standard" library idea in this of library rotation, but broadened and thereby weakened perhaps; for it furnishes a small collection on all subjects approaching, if not quite, "standard" in its quality, and alterable in its contents as seasons or local occurrences bring birds and flowers or yachting and fishing into special prominence. And it escapes the limited interest of a reading list by its inclusiveness. Its simplicity, and the fact that it involves no expense, makes it practicable in the smallest library.

Great as is the influence of the "rotation" case on those who draw its books, it is as broad on those, many more in number than the takers of books, who can spend but half an hour comfortably browsing among the pages of some hitherto unknown and undiscovered volume. The chair is seldom without an occupant afternoon and evening, and several of our morning newspaper readers who do not care for a borrower's card, have taken their ease in it, book in hand.

On the present plan, we choose about every five weeks from the stacks 150 works that are not on lists of previous selections and that are attractive and reliable, apportioning the classes according to the season or the preferences shown by the lists. At this rate some 1600 will be exhibited in a year, and in three or four that portion of the 12,000 odd volumes non-fiction in the library as are suited to such general reading will have been brought prominently to notice, and the library will have been completely "rotated."

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For if we take an examination of what is generally understood by happiness, as it has respect either to the understanding or the senses, we shall find all its properties and adjuncts will herd under this short definition—that it is a perpetual possession of being well deceived. And first, with relation to the mind or understanding, 'tis manifest what mighty advantages fiction has over truth: and the reason is just at our elbow, because imagination can build nobler scenes, and produce more wonderful revolutions than fortune or nature will be at expense to furnish. Nor is mankind so much to blame in his choice thus determining him, if we conceive that the debate merely lies between things past and things conceived.—*Dean Swift.*

## THE WORK OF THE DOCUMENT OFFICE.

L. C. FERRELL, Superintendent of Documents, requests the publication of a communication sent by him to J. I. Wyer, chairman of the committee on public documents appointed at the recent Western Library Meeting, and relating to the report of that committee as printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* for September (p. 832). It is as follows:

*Mr. J. I. Wyer, Chairman Committee on Government Publications, Lincoln, Nebraska:*

DEAR SIR: I am obliged to you for sending me a copy of the report of your committee. It would have been better, however, if you had sent the copy before sending it out for publication, thus affording me an opportunity to correct some of the many errors in it.

Your report is under four heads and I will reply in detail.

1. "Graduated distribution to designated depositories."

This question has been under consideration by me for some years. In my annual report for 1901, p. 5, I said:

"To many libraries the receipt of 527 documents (in one year) more than half of which are large bound volumes, is embarrassing. A few depositories have already been dropped at their own request, having no available room for documents, while others have asked permission to select such as they find most useful. I have not yet found it practicable to comply with such requests because of the great increase in labor and bookkeeping involved. It is only a question of time, however, until something must be done that will enable librarians to select documents most useful to their patrons."

Your committee report is misleading in that it states "that only the largest libraries and those so desiring shall receive both cloth and sheep-bound copies of documents issued in both forms. Many of the smaller depository libraries would be glad to be relieved of the burden of shelving and caring for these second copies and in many cases the smallest libraries would be glad to discontinue entirely certain titles for which they have little or no use."

The impression here given is that designated depository libraries receive regularly two sets of public documents; one in sheep and the other in cloth binding. But as a matter of fact, only one copy of any document is supplied regularly to a designated depository. If duplicates are received it is because they are requested from members of Congress or from heads of departments before the editions to which depositories are entitled under the law are ready for distribution. Of course many documents are sent to libraries by members of Congress and heads of departments without request, complimentary.

The remedy has been sought in a change of the law so as to supply designated deposito-



ries with documents as soon as printed so that they might not be under the necessity of applying to members of Congress and heads of departments for early editions of documents which, under the law now in force, cannot be supplied by the Superintendent of Documents until months and in some cases more than a year after the first editions have been in circulation. It is believed that Senate bill 4261, which was passed in the Senate through the efforts of the late Senator McMillan, of Michigan, March 6, 1902, will, if it becomes a law, accomplish this result. It provides for printing a "library edition" composed of all the annual reports and miscellaneous publications of the executive departments and other offices of the government, to be bound in cloth and distributed to designated depository libraries as soon as printed.

When the law revising the printing law was passed in 1895, Congress, being aware of the great delay in supplying documents to depository libraries, provided that any library might receive its quota out of the first edition, provided that notice of such desire be given prior to the meeting of Congress, the documents to be supplied in unbound form. No depository has ever availed itself of this privilege.

In concluding this subject I will say that an opportunity will be given depository libraries at an early date to indicate such of the periodical publications of the government as they wish discontinued. If any considerable number desire a change I shall try and accommodate them.

## 2. Privilege of selection by non-depository libraries.

I will state that such libraries have been afforded every facility possible for obtaining documents desired. This office has adopted a rule to supply anything available to any library upon request, provided that the document or documents desired have not previously been supplied or will not subsequently be supplied under existing law. The Superintendent of Documents cannot, however, create an additional depository list unless authorized by law. To permit a library—a non-depository—to select documents to be supplied regularly as printed would be establishing a depository list contrary to law. I would heartily favor a law which would provide for sending the reports of the Bureau of Education, Bureau of Ethnology, Smithsonian Institution, American Historical Association, Department of Agriculture, Geological Survey, and the like, to every library in the United States. I believe such a law ought to be passed. The *Congressional Record* ought also to be supplied to at least one library in each county in the United States; and it ought to be bound up and distributed from time to time while Congress remains in session instead of waiting, as at present, until long after final adjournment.

## 3. Larger edition of Monthly Catalogue.

This office has frequently recommended to

Congress that a sufficient number of copies be printed to supply such libraries as desire the Monthly Catalogue. The authorized edition is 2000 copies. Of these about 1400 go to libraries and the remainder to heads of departments, members of Congress, and the press. When I took charge of this office in 1897 the distribution was made to about 600 libraries and the remainder to individuals.

## 4. Prompter issue of Monthly Catalogue.

The law requires that a Monthly Catalogue shall be prepared on the first day of each month which shall show the documents printed during the previous month, etc. It has always been the practice of this office to send the copy for the Monthly Catalogue to the printing office on the 7th of the month, or as soon thereafter as possible. Ordinarily when sent to press on the 7th it has been received back for distribution about the 25th of the month. So that the normal date of distribution of the Monthly Catalogue for any month would be the 25th of the month following. This, however, was before we began to make the cumulative index, which adds, at the very least, 10 days. So that the normal date of distribution of, say the June, 1902, catalog, would be Aug. 5. With this explanation let us see what delay has occurred in the distribution since Jan. 1, 1902, which your committee state *"is now from three to four months behind, appearing six to eight weeks after the British monthly catalog reaches this country."*

Beginning with January, 1902, the Monthly Catalogue has been distributed as follows:

MONTH.	DATE OF DISTRIBUTION.
January	March 25.
February	April 21.
March	May 19.
April	June 25.
May	July 26.
June	September 8.
July	September 24.
August	October 1.

It may be also stated that Congress was in session January to July, making these six months the busiest of the year. But *in not a single instance* was the catalog more than six weeks later than usually issued. I do not know where your committee obtained its data for the statement that the catalog is now from three to four months in arrears. But from whatever source, the information was not according to the facts, which could have easily been obtained upon application. When it is considered that the addition of the cumulative index has added at least 100 per cent. to the value of the Monthly Catalogue, and that it is issued with but little additional delay, it would seem that the office should, at least, escape criticism. But your committee goes beyond just criticism and makes a statement not borne out by the facts.

The report also states that the Monthly Catalogue is received from six to eight weeks

after the British monthly catalog reaches this country.

I take it for granted that your committee never saw a copy of the British monthly catalog or it would not have referred to it. I have before me the British monthly list of publications for December, 1901. It was received Feb. 11, 1902. Our December, 1901, catalog was distributed Feb. 21, 1902. Only 10 days difference in time. Now how do they compare? The British monthly list for December, 1901, which is a fair sample, contains seven pages and 89 entries. Our Monthly Catalogue for the same month contains 111 pages, with a consolidated index to all documents printed by the United States Government during the calendar year, and 10,000 entries, including the index. One of our catalogers could prepare the British monthly list in one day.

In conclusion, I will say that I have no doubt but that your committee can secure careful consideration from Congress of any matter connected with the printing and distribution of documents. Speaking for myself, I will say that it will always be a pleasure to me to render any assistance in my power in securing legislation tending to improve the service.

L. C. FERRELL,

*Superintendent of Documents.*

#### OFFICIAL TITLES OF GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICES.

I READ with interest Mr. Jones's review of the Advance Edition of the new catalog rules in the October JOURNAL. I have no desire to take issue with any part of it except the comments upon Rule 9, which relates to entries for Government publishing offices. As to this he says: "This rule is one upon which the committee requests comment, especially in regard to the alternative forms of entry suggested in the note, viz. (a) Bureau of education, (b) Education bureau, (c) Education, Bureau of. Although (b) is the practice of the Superintendent of Documents, it should be at once ruled out of court, as it is not the correct official name of the bureau."

Of course the reviewer knows what the "correct official name of the bureau" is, and in such knowledge he is fortunate, for the Documents Office, though searching long and diligently for it, has not been able to find out. The popular name of it is certainly "Education Bureau," and that form has quite as good legal sanction as Bureau of Education. Both are in direct opposition to the law, but the legal name cannot be used, because it has been so long out of use that nobody would recognize it.

The government organization dealing with the subject of education was first organized as an independent executive department, and manned by a commissioner and two clerks.

After two years this was abolished and an act passed (July 20, 1868) which provided that "there shall be established and attached to the Department of the Interior an office to be denominated the Office of Education." This has never been repealed. On the contrary it has twice been re-enacted, in the Revised Statutes, editions of 1875 and 1878. But in the Revised Statutes a modification was introduced which has served as a peg on which to hang both the present officially used title and the much more generally used popular title. The language of the Revised Statutes (sec. 516) is: "There shall be in the Department of the Interior a bureau called the Office of Education." Sec. 517 provides that "the management of the Office of Education shall be intrusted to a Commissioner of Education." The word "Bureau" added in the Revised Statutes to the original enactment of 1868 has apparently been made the excuse for using the preferred title "Bureau" and for ignoring the legal title "Office." The Revised Statutes were enacted June 22, 1874, and were taken cognizance of in the first report of the "Office" or "Bureau," though that was dated Oct. 27, 1870. The explanation is found in the fact that the imprint date is 1875, the report having evidently not been issued till after the enactment of the statutes. In this first report the then commissioner (Eaton) says of the branch of the government of which he was the head: "First established as an independent department, it was afterward reduced to an office in the Interior Department, where now the law styles it a Bureau." Note the artful phrasing and capitalizing. Though the law says that it shall be called an office (with a lower-case "o"), it "styles it a Bureau" (with a capital "B"). And ever since every commissioner has both styled it and called it a Bureau. For two or three sessions Congress followed the text of the law and appropriated for the organization under the name "Office," then accepted the wish of the commissioners as more potent than the letter of the law, and has since made the appropriations for the Bureau. Under these circumstances, what is the "correct official name"? The Documents Office decided that it didn't know and couldn't find out, and it therefore felt at liberty to use in its catalogs the briefest and clearest form that would unmistakably identify the publishing office and most fully comply with the first and best rule of good cataloging, namely, "The convenience of the public is always to be set before the ease of the cataloger."

Evidently the Co-operation Committee has encountered some of these difficulties and is therefore not so sure on the point as the reviewer felt himself to be. If this is not the case, why does the committee leave the question open and ask for suggestions?



Inconsistencies of this kind run through nearly all the long list of government publishing departments, bureaus, offices, commissions, and what not. Nobody ever thinks or speaks, and no cataloger need ever feel called upon to write, of the Fish Commission under any other name, yet it is known to the law as the Commission of Fish and Fisheries. On the title-pages of the whole series of annual bulletins issued by the commission, the only title used is Fish Commission. On most of its pamphlet publications both forms may be found on the same title-page. All of the great executive departments except the Post-Office Department are legally known as "Department of," or "of the," the distinctive word which the cataloger must use first coming last in the legal title. Yet popular usage has shown itself so much more powerful than the law that you never find on the title of a War or Navy or Treasury publication the name of the department given in legal form. It is always War Department, Navy Department, Treasury Department. The Department of State is the only one which popular usage inverts that has not officially yielded to the popular voice. The Department of the Interior has made a feeble and unsuccessful effort to keep up the legal form. In an official history of the department issued in 1897 the title-page says "Department of the Interior," but the very first words in the text are: "The Interior Department was established." Not even the Documents Office has yet ventured to say Justice Department,\* but there is no sufficient reason why it should not. If popular speech had found that a euphonious combination doubtless the catalogers would have followed the current. So long as they must put the word Justice first, nothing is gained in perspicuity by appending the preposition, and to my mind something is lost in logical form. The public boggles over Agriculture Department, but does something far worse by saying Agricultural Department. No cataloger could possibly follow that usage, because it brings in a word not found in the legal designation. The cataloger may invert or omit—he cannot interpolate. The catalogers of the Library of the Department of Agriculture itself have shown more appreciation of the logic of the situation than even those of the Documents Office, for you may find in catalog entries of the Department Library the form Agriculture Department, while the Documents Office in most of its publications still appends the unnecessary "of."

I may add that the original act creating the Interior Department is headed "Act to create a Home Department," and it was at first indexed in the Statutes at Large and appropriated for under the name Home De-

partment. The Peabody Catalogue—and I do not know a better one—enters the Department of the Interior as Interior, Department of. That is no more the legal title than Interior Department, and is on other grounds not so good.

My general conclusion, after much tribulation of spirit, is that the cataloger who determines to use only the "correct official names" of Government publishing offices will give himself a vast deal of useless trouble and come to no solid conclusion at last. Let common sense be the rule, and let those who have the courage follow where it leads. It has not yet led the Documents Office, or any other, to enter Department of the East as East Department, but there is no knowing what we may all come to in good time.

F. A. CRANDALL,  
*Public Documents Library.*

#### THE BODLEIAN TRICENTENARY.

THE most important event in the library world during the month of October was the celebration of the three hundredth anniversary of the founding of the Bodleian Library, at Oxford, England. Strange as it may seem, the beginnings of the University of Oxford are so shrouded in the mists of the past that there are no definite dates upon which anniversaries and academic functions can be hung. The colleges of Oxford have had their celebrations, but the Bodleian Tricentenary is the first university function and great university celebration in the history of that old and august institution.

The Bodleian Library was first opened to readers on Nov. 8, 1602; but as it is impossible for the colleges to accommodate a large number of invited guests during term time, the celebration was placed on Oct. 8 and 9. Invitations were not sent out broadcast and carelessly, yet every university and college and learned society of any standing in the world doubtless received notice of this celebration.

Nearly 120 educational institutions and learned societies responded, sending delegates—and some institutions sending more than one. Eighteen different countries were represented in the great gathering in the Sheldonian Theatre, and some three hundred formal guests were present, besides a large number of most distinguished graduates of Oxford, returning to honor their colleges and the university at this time.

The celebration opened with a general reception on the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 8, given in the beautiful Ashmolean Museum and University galleries. It was decidedly the most brilliant social function that the old town has ever seen. In addition to the invited guests, all of whom were in full academic dress, there were a large number of the most noted men of all the Oxford colleges

\* Except in the recently-issued Index to the documents of the Congressional series.

and of other educational institutions, and an unusual representation of local and national officials. The crush was something terrible at the first doorway and in the first corridor, but once beyond that the visitors scattered through the different rooms and alcoves of the museum, finding ample opportunity for delightful social intercourse.

On the following morning the officials of the university and of the various colleges entitled to recognition in the University Convocation, together with those who were about to receive degrees, assembled at the Hall of Oriel College, moving thence through the streets of the old town and through the historic corridors and quads of the immediately adjoining colleges, to the Sheldonian Theatre. Here, in formal Convocation, from which those about to receive degrees were excluded — remaining in one of the dimly lighted halls of Brazenose — the names of those about to be honored were canvassed and received the final and formal vote of approbation. Then the candidates for degrees, garbed in the rich scarlet Oxford gowns, were escorted to the theatre, passing up the central aisle in the midst of one of the most brilliant academic assemblages imaginable, and perhaps the most brilliant and noteworthy ever assembled in any country. With the head of the little column resting at the foot of the steps leading up to the seat of the Vice Chancellor (the Chancellor — now Lord Salisbury — is rarely present except when royalty is concerned) each candidate was formally presented for his degree, the Vice Chancellor rising at the close of the presentation, uncapping and granting the degree. Each person thus honored then ascended the steps, received the right hand of fellowship from the Vice Chancellor, and was then escorted to the circle of those "high in dignity and power" in the university. It will interest all Americans to know that Yale University was recognized by the degree of D. C. L., conferred upon Hon. Andrew D. White; that Harvard University was remembered with the degree of D. S., granted to Professor Minot; that Princeton was honored through Professor Andrew F. West, who now adds D. Litt. to his name; and that Dr. James H. Canfield, librarian of Columbia University, brought home a similar degree.

Then followed presentation (without speeches) of the addresses from the various institutions represented. The exercises closed with an eloquent address in sonorous Latin. With the exception of one or two informal and unimportant announcements, Latin was the language of the entire function. It was noticed that the English pronunciation was used, which was explained by a member of the faculty of one of the colleges as the result of the open and vociferous ridicule heaped upon the Roman pronunciation by the students of the university whenever that pronunciation had been essayed.

The fall term not having opened, no stu-

dents were present, so the peculiar spice of an Oxford gathering was wanting.

At the close of the exercises a large number of the guests, especially those from foreign countries, visited the Bodleian Library. No special arrangements had been made to receive these visitors, and no special display was made of the gathered treasures of this wonderful collection. Those who were so fortunate as to pass through the various rooms and alcoves simply saw the old library in its working every-day garb, precisely as it appears during the academic year to those who are its constant patrons. "They change all that in France," and it would probably have been very different in the United States; but there was no serious complaint and no severe criticism, though there was some quiet astonishment when the librarian was discovered drudging away at his daily correspondence, and apparently somewhat impatient at the unusual interruption. However, as the interruption comes but once in 300 years no serious sympathy was felt for his discomfort and annoyance.

In the evening the guests assembled in the old dining hall of Christ's Church College at seven o'clock, where a dinner was given in their honor, followed by the usual after-dinner addresses. The gathering was a notable one in every way, both in the place and all its memories and traditions and in the personnel of those who assembled. At the "table of honor" were such men as Professor Jebb, Sir E. Maunde Thompson, Lord Strathcona, Professor de Martens, Professor Paul Meyer, Hon. John Morley, Sir Michael Foster, Rev. Dr. Mahaffy, and Hon. James Bryce; while at the other tables were the representatives of learned societies and notable colleges and universities, as well as those coming from the professions and other walks of life. Such men as Gen. Warren, Dr. Garnett, Mr. Fortescue, Professor Massie, Dr. Parkin, Dr. Ginsburg, Dr. Furnivall, Professor Croiset, Mr. Michael Sadler, Mr. John Murray, Professor York Powell were easily recognized; and scattered through the room were the presidents of the various colleges of Oxford and Cambridge, most notable members of their faculties, and men of most brilliant record in statescraft and the world of letters.

To an American there were two noteworthy omissions in the program of the great Convocation — the entire absence of music of any kind and the fact that there were no devotional exercises whatever.

Barring a dash of rain just as the procession was forming on Thursday morning, the weather was all that could be asked. Oxford was never more beautiful, and the impression of its gray walls and ivy, brilliant with autumn colors, and beautiful gardens, will long be remembered by those who were so fortunate as to take part in this unique and remarkable celebration.

LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE OF  
THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE cornerstone of the great building for the New York Public Library, now in course of erection at Bryant Park, was laid on the afternoon of Monday, Nov. 10, before an audience of about a thousand persons. The exercises were short and very simple. William Willcox, the city park commissioner, presided and introduced Rev. W. H. Huntington, of Grace Church, who opened the ceremony with an invocation. John Bigelow, president of the library board, then read a review of the successive steps in the history of the library, during the 18 years since Samuel J. Tilden had bequeathed the bulk of his estate to the city of New York for public library purposes. He traced the course of the Tilden will contest and of the later compromise effected with the heirs by which a fund of over two million dollars was secured for the library—a sum entirely inadequate for the great purposes in the minds of those to whose charge the development of the library was entrusted. The consolidation of the Tilden bequest with the Astor Library, and later with the Lenox Library, was described, and the speaker referred to the broad lines upon which the New York Public Library—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations—has been developed, and to the efforts which have placed it in the rank of the world's greatest libraries. The great gift of Mr. Carnegie, which will bring the library in direct contact with the life of the people throughout the city, was fittingly acknowledged, and Mr. Bigelow referred to the cordial recognition and support accorded to the library by the city and by the people.

At the close of Mr. Bigelow's address Mayor Low advanced to the cornerstone, and received a silver trowel from the architects, Messrs. Carrere and Hastings, who stood by his side. A large bronze box containing the usual collection of documents relating to the history of the library, papers of the day, etc., was placed in the hollow made for it in the stone, and after the mayor had spread mortar on the base the cornerstone was slowly lowered into place. It was of Vermont marble, weighing seventeen tons, the only chiselling on its face being the date in Roman letters. The mayor then formally declared the cornerstone laid of the New York Public Library—Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations—and made a brief address, accepting the building on behalf of the city. He said:

"The laying of the cornerstone of the New York Public Library is an event of unusual importance and significance for the city of New York. I congratulate all, both officials and citizens, who have had any part in bringing this public library project to its splendid consummation, upon their good fortune, and I count myself happy to be permitted, as mayor of New York, to lay this cornerstone.

"The creation of a comprehensive free li-

brary system for the city of New York is as remarkable in its origin as it is full of beneficent promise in its development. I gladly avail myself of this opportunity to express the thanks of the city to Mr. Bigelow and his colleagues for their great contribution of time and thought and labor in this behalf. I know of nothing in the history of private benefaction so unusual as the agreement of the boards of trustees of the Astor Library, the Lenox Library and the Tilden trust to unite in the promotion of the New York Public Library upon the Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

"This union may well have seemed to those inclined to take a narrow view of things to involve the surrender of some distinction on the part of each one of these undertakings, and it required great breadth of vision, a large public spirit and a fine sense of the fitness of things to appreciate that the increased power for public service to be obtained by such a merger would exalt rather than belittle each of the individual benefactors, precisely as the states of our Union had retained their individuality while multiplying beyond calculation their power and their influence by uniting.

"Sometimes, though not always, it is only the first step that counts, and this was the first indispensable step in the creation of the New York Library. It is a conspicuous illustration of the truth that 'he who would save his life must lose it.' Out of this loss of separateness by the Astor, the Lenox and the Tilden libraries has grown the New York Public Library, upon the Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations.

"It is, perhaps, well to point out that when the corporation of the New York Public Library had been formed and the co-operation of the city of New York had been secured for the erection of this building the only thing that had been made sure was the erection of a great reference library within the city. There remained to be added the feature of free circulating libraries upon a scale adequate to the needs of the city, such as should fully justify the title of the corporation, 'The New York Public Library.' The steps toward this second end were as unique and as interesting as those that had resulted in securing for the city a great reference library. First the Free Circulating Library Association of the city amalgamated with the New York Public Library, and then other smaller libraries in different sections of old New York did the same thing.

"In the meanwhile the city itself was developing the Brooklyn Public Library, with suitable branches throughout that borough. But still the prospects of securing circulating libraries upon an adequate scale for all parts of the city in any future that could be foreseen were faint enough until Andrew Carnegie, with his accustomed liberality, offered to supply the necessary buildings if the city would supply the sites for them and make

itself responsible for the running expenses. This unique offer, so characteristic of American citizenship, made possible the early accomplishment of a purpose that otherwise could have been realized only very slowly.

"The vast outlay required to provide for such a circulating system for the entire city is easily shown. Mr. Carnegie's contribution for the buildings will amount to \$5,200,000, the city's contribution of sites, when complete, will represent \$1,000,000, and when all branches are in working order the operating expenses will amount to \$1,000,000 annually. So far as the New York Public Library is concerned the city's obligations and expenditures, apart from the erection of this building, are entirely in the interest of its circulating department. The Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations both provide and support the reference library.

"It may safely be predicted, therefore, that in the near future the city of New York will enjoy the most adequate and effective system of free circulating libraries to be found in any city of the world, and a reference library also of the very highest rank.

"I ask your attention for a few moments, to a consideration of what it means for the city of New York to be in possession of so great a library of reference as the New York Public Library already is and is destined to become, and of such a system of free circulating libraries as the city is soon to have. Some one has said that there are two elements necessary for the making of a great book: first, the man capable of writing it; and, second, the materials with which the man may work.

"It may be said, with almost literal accuracy, that, 50 years ago, there were in the United States no great collections of books; none, for example, that could compare with the old libraries of Europe, in either number or quality. At the present time there are several centers in the country at which great collections of books are being formed; and, while New York is the last of American cities seriously to enter the lists, the public library situation here, as it has been outlined to-day, is an interesting illustration of the results obtained by applying the city's immense power and resources to the library problem. Happily, it reflects, not only the city's wealth, it is equally a fine illustration of the quality of its citizenship.

"It is probably true, or it has been until recently, that for the purpose of writing American history a student can work in the British Museum to greater advantage than in any other single library in the world. It is doubtless true that the American historian must still go to the British Museum and to other libraries in Europe and America if his work is to be thoroughly done; and this will continue to be the case; for no library can hope to command all the material bearing upon such a subject. But it is equally true that the time is close at hand when the

student of American history, if he can go to only one library, will come to the New York Public Library as the one offering to him, on the whole, the largest opportunity. What is true of American history is likely to be true, as time goes on, of many other fields of human interest. Of the city of New York, as distinguished from the Public Library, this is certain to be so, for, besides the Public Library, there are here fine collections of books such as scholars use in both universities of the city. Of the New York Public Library as it is to-day it may truthfully be said that the Astor, the Lenox and the Tilden foundations have already accumulated so fine a nucleus of reference books, and the large funds at their command enable them to supplement this collection so freely, that the New York Public Library, on the reference side, is making giant strides year by year, toward the very front rank of libraries.

"The library system of the city of New York, when completely developed upon the lines that have been begun, will be as nearly an ideal system as any city could wish. At the center, in the superb building to be erected here, there will be the treasure house of the world's learning, which will draw to itself choice spirits from every land for the purpose of study and work. In every quarter of the great city there will be a circulating library that will develop in many a home, not otherwise to be discovered, the taste for scholarship and learning that will certainly result in blessing the world in ways not to be measured. For books are mute upon the shelves, until they are given new voices by the workings of the human spirit. The city, therefore, that supplies the books to meet the craving of the student, and, at the same time, makes provision to develop this craving wherever the basis for it exists among the multitudes of people, is a city certain to confer lasting benefit upon mankind.

"It is hardly necessary for me to point out what it means to a city to be the centre of a literary and scientific life such as a library of this kind draws about itself. It means that New York will become more and more the home of men who will minister to the higher life of the city and of the country; who will acquaint the city with the deep lessons of the past; who will honorably identify it with the discoveries of the future, and who will assure to it a worthy position in the inspiring march of progress in which the cities of the world are taking the lead. Great libraries are the storehouses of human knowledge, and as such they are the granaries out of whose rich accumulations come the seeds that fructify the years that are to be. The New York Public Library, therefore, means that the city of New York will serve mankind in the days to come as never before."

At the end of Mr. Low's address Archbishop Farley closed the ceremonies with prayer and benediction.

## LIBRARY APPROPRIATIONS IN NEW YORK CITY.

THE municipal appropriations for 1903 for library purposes in New York City, as made by the New York Board of Estimate and Apportionment, are \$66,550 in excess of the amount granted for the year 1902. A comparative table of the appropriations for the two years follows:

	1903	1902
New York Public Library, Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.....	\$111,150.00	\$85,650.00
Aguilar Free Library Society.....	38,000.00	38,000.00
Webster Free Library....	6,800.00	6,800.00
Cathedral Free Circulating Library.....	17,275.00	17,275.00
Free Library of the University Settlement Society.	4,500.00	4,500.00
Washington Heights Free Library*.....		5,500.00
Maimonides Free Library of District No. 1 of the Independent Order Benai B'rith.....	10,000.00	10,000.00
Young Women's Christian Association Library....	5,900.00	5,900.00
Harlem Library.....	8,300.00	8,300.00
General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of The City of New York....	6,150.00	6,150.00
Tenement-house Chapter Library.....	950.00	950.00
Public Library, Brooklyn.	186,700.00	150,000.00
Queens Borough Library, (for maintenance of established free circulating libraries when acquired as branches).....	20,000.00	20,000.00
New York Free Circulating Library for the Blind..	677.70	677.70
Young Men's Benevolent Association Library....	4,025.00	4,025.00
Tottenville Library.....	1,116.10	1,116.10
	\$431,493.80	\$364,843.80

In announcing the library budget for the coming year, Comptroller Grout stated that "private libraries receive no increase, and will be entirely excluded from the next budget (1904), in view of the opening of many of the Carnegie branches." The policy here proposed must undoubtedly have a serious effect upon the future of the Aguilar, Y. M. C. A., Harlem, Mechanics' and Tradesmen's, and other special institutional libraries which have heretofore received city aid.

## CARNEGIE BRANCH LIBRARIES FOR BROOKLYN, N. Y.

THE Brooklyn Public Library has issued in pamphlet form the "Instructions to architects" which are to govern the erection of the Carnegie branch libraries in that borough. Sites have already been decided upon for five of these branches, and it is hoped that building operations may begin early next year. Four of the branch buildings will be practically similar in size, capacity and cost (\$80,000) and possibly uniform in plan; one, the Williamsburgh branch, will be larger than the others, and will cost in all \$110,000.

\*Merged into New York Public Library during 1902.

For the four smaller branches, the sum of \$62,000 each is allotted for cost of building proper, \$18,000 being assigned to cover equipment, architects' fees, and incidental expenses. A total book capacity of 35,000 volumes is desired, of which 10,000 to 13,000 must be on open shelves, and 22,000 to 25,000 may be in the stacks. "The stacks should not be in a wing separated by walls and doors from the delivery desk, as liberal access to them will be allowed to frequenters of the libraries, and they must therefore be in full view from the desk." The buildings must be two-storied, with a basement. The first floor is to contain a delivery room (400 sq. ft.); stack space with stacks for 25,000 v (600-1200 sq. ft.); reading room (1200 sq. ft.); reference room (400 sq. ft.); children's room (1600 sq. ft.); and librarian's room (300-350 sq. ft.). "The whole first floor, except the entrance hallway, may be considered as forming really one large room, the partitions being chiefly of glass above the level of five feet from the floor." The children's room may have a separate side entrance, and a children's reference room should be partitioned off. On the second floor should be provided a lecture room, seating 200 to 250 (1500 sq. ft.); two ante-rooms (450 sq. ft.); two study rooms (1000-1200 sq. ft.); staff lunch room (180 sq. ft.); staff sitting room (180 sq. ft.); staff lavatory (150 sq. ft.), and if practicable one or two rooms for janitor. In the basement, besides space for heating and ventilating plant, closets, coal storage, janitor's storerooms and lavatories, is to be a workroom (1500 sq. ft.) with space for magazines, newspapers and stock. For the Williamsburgh branch the general plan is practically the same, except that more space is allotted, that shelving is required for 35,000 volumes, that a cataloging room is provided on the first floor, and a combined reading and reference room with a periodical storage room adjoining on the second floor.

Other suggestions are:

"If radial stacks are used, the stack space may be treated as a projecting one-story wing, permitting of the future addition of a second story, doubling its capacity. Except in this stack-space, no bookcases or stacks should be set upon or project into the open floor-space. In other words, all open shelving should be against walls or form partitions. Public catalog cases, if not arranged as part of or close to delivery desk, should be in delivery room at some point accessible also to children's room and reference room.

"The architects are requested to bear in mind that abundant natural light and natural ventilation are great *desiderata*, and that no convenience of arrangement should be sacrificed for mere architectural effect. Convenience and directness of access, simplicity and obviousness of arrangement—such that a stranger on first entering the building may see at once where to go for what he needs—are of prime importance, as well as a general spaciousness, cheerfulness and hospitableness of aspect."



### THE CARNEGIE BUILDING OF THE LINCOLN (NEB.) CITY LIBRARY.

ON Sept. 16, 1899, the city library of Lincoln, located in the Masonic Temple, was totally destroyed by fire. Immediate steps were taken for its restoration, so that at the present time the library again contains upwards of 12,500 volumes. Soon after the fire, the needs of the library were brought to the attention of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, and at Christmas time of 1899, he offered to the city the sum of \$75,000, for the erection of a building. Immediate steps were taken to secure a site. Several sites were offered as a gift, but none of these were wholly suitable for the purpose. The library board therefore appealed to the citizens of the city for voluntary donations with which to purchase a site, with the result that about \$10,000 was subscribed for this purpose by some 5500 residents of the city, in amounts ranging from five cents to one thousand dollars.

Preliminary plans were adopted by the board after a careful investigation of modern libraries, and the particular needs to be met in this case. On the basis of these, a number of architects were invited to submit competitive plans. The plans finally selected were those of Messrs. Fisher & Lawrie, architects, of Omaha, Neb. Ground was broken on Dec. 1, 1900. The prime feature in determining the essential details of the plan was the possibility of economical administration. With this in view, it was deemed necessary to bring all the essential departments of the library together on a single floor, with the rooms so arranged, as to allow complete supervision from a single point. The main portion of the building is a rectangle, 68 by 104 feet. In the rear is an extension for the main stack room 20 by 43 feet, and a small extension for the librarian's and cataloging rooms, 19 by 27 feet. The building consists of a main floor, and a high basement, the floor of the latter being but 3½ feet below the building grade, which itself is about three feet above the level of the street. The entrance is directly to the main floor. The basement to the top of the water table, a distance of about 10 feet, is faced with first quality blue Bedford stone, accurately squared and rubbed. Above this, the building is constructed of the best quality gray pressed brick, with trimmings of gray terra cotta several shades lighter. The roof is covered with a dull red tile, and the whole is surmounted by a low dome faced with gray brick, and roofed with copper.

The entrance, which is approached by a flight of easy steps, is surmounted by a pediment in which are placed ornamental designs of terra cotta in high relief. The pediment is supported by two fluted Ionic columns, one on each side of the entrance. The entrance through the outer door is into a

broad light vestibule, wainscoted with dark Tennessee marble. The upper portion is finished in Keen's cement, the sides being moulded in the form of pilasters. A short flight of easy steps brings the visitor to the level of the main floor, and from the vestibule he passes into the spacious and well lighted delivery room, octagonal in form. This is floored with mosaic tile, wainscoted in Tennessee marble, and lighted from the dome above.

To the right of the delivery room, in front, is the spacious reading room for newspapers and periodicals. To the left is the staircase leading to the basement. This is well lighted by windows in the front of the building. To the left, and next to the staircase, is the reference room, in which the arrangement of the books is such as to permit the later doubling of the first shelf capacity, without rearrangement. Immediately opposite the entrance in the delivery room, is the main delivery counter, semi-circular in form, where the books are received and issued. This is in front of the main stack room, which extends from this point into the rear extension. In this the stacks are arranged in radial form, so as to bring every book in this stack room within view of the attendants at the counter. This stack room at present is equipped with only a single tier of stacks, so constructed as to permit the addition of a second tier whenever it may be needed. This part of the building is constructed so as to permit its extension rearward, whenever the space may be needed, and if desired, the stacks can then be arranged at right angles to its sides, in the conventional manner. The public is allowed full access to these stacks, even though by doing so, it was necessary to be more lavish of space than would otherwise be the case.

To the left of the delivery room, and adjoining the reference room, is the open stack room. This is arranged with stacks to which the public has the freest access at all times, even though lack of space in the future should necessitate limiting the access to the main stack room. Here are kept the books of greatest general interest, the general catalogs, with tables and counters for the convenience of patrons consulting them, so arranged as to bring the catalogs within easy access of the public, the attendants at the counters, the librarian, and the catalogers.

To the right of the delivery room in the rear, is the children's room, in which will be kept all books and periodicals for the special use of juvenile readers. The librarian's and the cataloging rooms are in an extension off the open stack room, the former commanding supervision of the main portion of the library. This extension is lower than the rest of the building, thus permitting small windows above the extension to furnish light into both stack rooms.

In the basement, provision is made for a bicycle room, accessible from the outside of the building, two studies which can be thrown into one, for use as a lecture room, an unpacking and work room connected with the cataloging room overhead by means of a book lift, a storage room, a room for the staff, a janitor's room, toilet rooms and lavatories, and a large apartment designed for use as a museum, or for any other purpose for which it may be needed in the future. With the exception of the storage room, these are all well lighted and airy. Under the front steps there is a large vault with steel door, for the purpose of preserving records and material of that character. A hall runs through the basement from north to south, at the north end of which is the entrance from the alley, for the use of the janitor, and the delivery of boxes and packages.

The building is completely fire-proof, the only wood used in its construction being some of the floors, the doors, and part of the window cases. On the north side of the building, where there is a possible exposure from fire from without, the windows are of fire-proof wire glass in metal frames. All rooms are thoroughly ventilated, fresh air being taken into ducts in the cornices of the building, thence passed into plenum chambers under the basement, and from there circulated into various apartments by a system of indirect radiation. To supplement the indirect radiation in cold weather, a sufficient amount of direct radiation is provided everywhere. Steam heat has been adopted as on the whole, the most efficient and economical. The heating plant is in a separate boiler house, entirely disconnected from the building. The building is piped and wired so as to permit the use of both gas and electricity; but in the stacks electric lights only are used. The building is now supplied with stacks sufficient to hold 35,000 standard volumes. The shelf capacity can be increased so as to give the present building a maximum capacity of upwards of 75,000 volumes. By the extension of the stack room rearward, the shelf capacity can be increased to a practically unlimited extent.

Since the opening of the library in its new building (May 27, 1902) the work has grown in every way, many more persons avail themselves of the privilege of drawing books and the number of visitors to the reading and reference rooms has materially increased. The children seem to have taken a new interest in books and the children's room is daily filled. The members of the Women's Club of Lincoln have furnished the study rooms in the basement of the library with handsome rugs, tables, chairs, etc., making them attractive and extremely comfortable and convenient. The large room in the basement has been fitted up for an assembly room, and is used for general club meetings

by the women of Lincoln, and will be rented for other gatherings of a literary nature. The room designed especially for the staff has been cosily fitted up, and is thoroughly enjoyed. Altogether the Lincoln City Library rejoices greatly in this new building and the good fortune that makes it possible to accommodate so many interested friends and patrons.

#### THE NET PRICE QUESTION.

W. T. PEOPLES, chairman of the A. L. A. committee on relations with the booktrade, has received the following letter from Mr. Charles Scribner, president of the American Publishers' Association, regarding increase of the discount granted to libraries on net books:

NEW YORK, Oct. 31, 1902.

Dear Mr. Peoples:

Your communication of September 9th was presented to the Board of Directors of the American Publishers' Association at its last meeting. I was directed to write that in view of the opposition of the Booksellers' Association it was thought inexpedient to recommend at present any change of discount to libraries. As I explained, a change could only be made at a meeting of the Association itself.

Concerning the prices of books I would write that these are fixed by individual publishers and any complaint should be addressed directly to them. The Publishers' Association does not attempt to control the prices at which books should be published, and indeed we have been advised that such a control would be illegal. The prices of books are subject to the ordinary business laws of competition and supply and demand.

Yours very truly,

CHARLES SCRIBNER.

Mr. Peoples writes: "The copy of Mr. Charles Scribner's letter tells its own story. The Board of Directors of the American Publishers' Association is composed of the largest and most influential publishers of the country. Whatever the board decides upon prevails in the association. It is the ruling factor, and there appears recently to have been a revulsion of sentiment on the question of discount to libraries from that which was thought to prevail at one period. It would be useless to attempt to accomplish anything in opposition to this board."

"As the board has refused to recommend that the association should increase the rate of discount to libraries nothing more can be done in this direction at the present time; consequently, librarians should be governed accordingly. The A. L. A. committee on the relations of libraries to the booktrade will meet in New York on Nov. 14th, to review the situation brought about by the action of the board of directors of the American Publishers' Association."



### A PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION OF FICTION.

At the 1901 meeting of the Keystone State Library Association a committee was appointed to consider the advisability of classifying the statistics of fiction circulation in public libraries. The report of this committee was presented at the third annual meeting of the association, held in Williamsport, October 18. It was as follows:

"At the annual meeting of the Keystone State Library Association held at Harrisburg last year it was resolved: that a committee of three be appointed by the chair to consider the matter of the differentiation of fiction and to report at the next meeting.

"A committee was appointed as follows: Joseph G. Rosengarten, William M. Stevenson, John Thomson.

"Your committee have carefully considered the matter submitted and report—

"That it is not in their judgment desirable to attempt any system of evaluation of fiction.

"That in preparing for publication statistics of circulation it is desirable to classify fiction according to the leading thought or object of the book.

"That fiction in these statistics should be divided into classes according to the methods known as the Dewey Classification.

"That most easily to effectuate this system the figure 1, 2, etc., according to the class of the book of fiction be written in red ink on the left hand corner of the book slip in a line above or even with the book number.

"That in counting up the circulation a record should be made of the number of volumes hundreds (for example) and be so entered, in the one hundreds, seven hundreds, or eight c.g.

Fiction 000  
100  
200  
300, etc.

"That probably it would be necessary to put those books which cannot be included in any one of the ten classes or in Biography under a twelfth division entitled 'unclassified.'

JOHN THOMSON,  
WILLIAM M. STEVENSON."

The committee's report formed the subject of an interesting debate by the association. The discussion was very full and was conducted on the principle of a round table, no set papers being read. In the end it was voted,

"That a committee of three librarians be appointed by the president to endeavor to obtain the assistance of say 20 of the smaller libraries or branches of large libraries in the United States in testing the proposed scheme of differentiating fiction according to a simple system of classification during the ensuing year and to bring up a report at the next

Keystone State Library Association meeting as to the advisability or otherwise of adopting this scheme."

The president, Mr. Anderson, subsequently appointed this committee as follows: William M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny, Albert R. Durham, Public Library, Reading; and John Thomson, Free Library of Philadelphia. It has been decided by the committee to begin the work by classifying the fiction in the Wagner Institute Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia. Mr. O. R. Howard Thomson, the assistant librarian in charge, has begun this work and the classification will be done upon cards, the general heading or classification to be stamped or printed on the ordinary library labels, on the book plate, the book slip, the catalog cards and the shelf list. This list, as soon as made, will be mimeographed so that copies can be sent to some 15 or 20 of the libraries and branches in other parts of the United States and a request will be made that the librarians so consulted should classify their fiction, in each case, according to the differentiation adopted at the Wagner Institute Branch, and should then send to the committee in charge of this matter the classification of the additional works of fiction in their library and not in the Wagner Institute Branch, so that if possible, all the libraries co-operating may have the same book in the same classification.

An idea of the classification scheme proposed is given by the following suggestive outline, presented at the meeting:

- Suggestive outline of classification.*
- 000 General. (Unclassified fiction.)
  - 100 Philosophy.
    - Stevenson. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde.
    - Kingsley. Hypatia.
    - Holmes. Elsie Venner.
  - 200 Religion.
    - Ward. Robert Elsmere.
    - Kingsley. F. M. Paul; Stephen; Titus.
    - Bagot. Casting of nets.
  - 300 Sociology.
    - Bellamy. Looking backward.
    - Dickens. Little Dorrit (prisons.)
    - Dickens. Nicholas Nickleby (schools.)
    - Stowe. Uncle Tom's cabin (slavery.)
    - Reade. Put yourself in his place.
    - Besant. All sorts and conditions of men.
  - 400 Philology.
  - 500 Natural science.
    - Verne. Hector Servadac (comets.)
  - 600 Useful arts.
    - Crawford. Marietta (glass blowers.)
    - Trowbridge. Three boys on an electrical boat.
  - 700 Fine arts.
    - Smith. Fortunes of Oliver Horn (painting.)
    - Synd. Consuelo (music.)
    - Sheppard. Charles Auchester (music.)
  - 800 Literature.
  - 900 History.
    - King. Between the lines.
    - Thackeray. Henry Esmond.
    - Ebers. Uarda.
  - B Biography.
    - Muhlbach. Empress Josephine.
    - Atherton. The conqueror (Alex. Hamilton.)

Mr. Thomson says: "I think we can get all the preliminary work done in the course of a couple of months, so that when the rec-

ords are kept in the libraries and branches there will be a sufficient time before our next Keystone State Library Association meeting to enable us to have a thorough test of this system for at least six months. This will enable the report made at the third annual meeting of the association to be very definite, and will help us to see whether it is desirable to adopt this method in libraries or whether the result of our test shall lead us to say, 'let the matter drop.' There is no way of deciding this question by theorizing, but when we have an opportunity of judging the results from a practical user of the system in 20 or more different places, we shall be in a position to critically estimate its usefulness or valuelessness."

### State Library Associations.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Whitney, Blackstone Library, Branford.

*Secretary:* Miss Anna Hadley, Public Library, Ansonia.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jennie P. Peck, Bronson Library, Waterbury.

The Connecticut Library Association held its fall meeting, Wednesday, Oct. 15, in the Public Library, Wallingford, at the invitation of the ladies of the Public Library and Reading-room Association, and was cordially welcomed in their behalf by Rev. J. E. Wildman. At 10.45 the meeting was called to order by Prof. David N. Camp, who presided in the absence of the president, H. M. Whitney. The reports of secretary and treasurer were read and approved. Two invitations from Norwalk, and one from the Kent Library, Suffield, inviting the association to hold meetings in their respective libraries during the coming year were noted, and referred to the executive board for action. After a very pleasing violin solo by Miss Mabel L. Hall, Mr. Frank B. Gay, of the Watkinson Library, Hartford, presented his paper "Should a librarian cultivate hobbies (of his own)?" Dr. George E. Wire of the Worcester (Mass.) County Law Library then read a paper on the "Selection of technical books for small libraries." He advised that no book worth more than \$5 should be bought for a library of 5000 volumes, but that a reasonable number of new and popular books on science and useful arts should be placed on its shelves. New England libraries should have small travelling collections of such books. Professors and high school teachers often recommend books for purchase that no one reads but themselves. Books on science and useful arts for small libraries should be American rather than English, and published by standard houses. In medicine a small library needs books only on three subjects, hygiene, trained nursing and gymnastics, and some large libraries have

given up their medical departments to medical societies. Small libraries need books on engineering, steam and sanitary, dynamos, gas engines, bicycles, and boat-building, and books on farming. Many lists for libraries are made by persons who have no idea of the poverty of small towns, or that what is good for a large library is not necessarily good for a small one.

Many of those present participated in the "Experience meeting," in which each related particular benefits derived from attending the A. L. A. conference at Magnolia—the results of personal contact and association with "leading lights" in the profession, the accounts of children's work in various libraries of the country, President Eliot's address, were among the many points noted.

The afternoon session was called to order at two o'clock by President Henry M. Whitney, who immediately named Mr. F. B. Gay, Miss Anna G. Rockwell and Mr. W. K. Stetson as a committee to nominate officers for the coming year, to report at the next meeting. It was then proposed that the record books of the association that are now complete be given a permanent home, and by vote it was decided that such records be sent to the state library.

Professor David N. Camp, Dr. A. C. Beardsley, and Miss L. M. Carrington were named as a committee to draw up resolutions on the death of Homer F. Bassett, late librarian of the Silas Bronson Library, Waterbury.

The first paper on the afternoon's program was presented by Mr. Roy L. Marston, Yale University Forest School, who took for his topic, "Forestry in Connecticut: Can our libraries awaken the people to its importance?" This was followed by two papers on the "Use of reference books by the public—from the librarian's standpoint, and from the public's point of view." Miss Corinne Bacon, of the State Library School, Albany, upheld the ideals of the librarian, also the ideals for the public as the librarian would have them, while Mrs. Jessie B. Gerard, of Norwalk, presented ideals for librarians as the public would have them. Miss Bacon's paper is given elsewhere. (See p. 927.)

Discussion then arose as to the best way of helping the small country libraries, and among suggestions made was that some of the larger libraries admit to classes of instruction the librarians of those libraries needing help along technical lines. A state school was mentioned, but the idea of strengthening the hands of the Connecticut Public Library Committee was deemed most feasible, and a motion was made that a committee be appointed by the chair to represent the association for this purpose at the next meeting of the legislature.

After a vote of thanks to the librarian and the hostesses of the day, the meeting adjourned.

ANNA HADLEY, *Secretary.*

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Thomas H. Clark, Law librarian, Library of Congress.

*Secretary:* R. K. Shaw, Library of Congress.

*Treasurer:* F. E. Woodward, 11th and F streets, N. W.

The first fall meeting of the District of Columbia Library Association was held Oct. 15 at the Columbian University, the president, Mr. Thomas H. Clark, being in the chair, and 42 members attending. After admitting to membership Miss Woodin and Miss Sewall, of the departmental libraries, the association had the pleasure of listening to a most entertaining paper by Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, entitled "The Solomon of Bohemia," and describing the life and vagaries of King Rudolph II., of Bohemia, or, the Solomon of his country, who claims the distinction of having been the most eccentric monarch of whom history has any record.

On conclusion of Dr. Bolton's paper the president invited the members to exchange vacation experiences of a literary or bibliographical character. The first to respond was Mr. Crandall, who invited the association to inspect four recent bibliographical productions. He first displayed a reprint of a paper by De Morgan issued as the first publication of the Bibliographical Society of Chicago. Regret was expressed at the large number of errors, chiefly typographical, which the work contains, showing that the society has still to perfect itself in the art of printing. The second book was Miss Adelaide Hasse's valuable work on public documents, giving in brief form the results of her long experience in public documents. That the book will be received with gratitude by the many librarians of the country is certain. The few errors in the book only prove the difficulty of the problem. Daniel Denton's "Description of New York" was the next book exhibited. Mr. Neumann's scholarly introduction was highly complimented by Mr. Crandall. Last came Mr. Larned's annotated bibliography of American history, and the notes by Dr. Hosmer were specially mentioned as being concise and full of information.

Mr. Solberg spoke of reading with much pleasure some new novels by the Swedish writer, Selma Lagerlöf, and the "Verlorene Paradies" of Ludwig Fulda. He referred also to a new bibliographical publication on the Balearic Islands.

Mr. Koch next gave an interesting summary of the publications of private and limited presses of America. The large number of these presses was a surprise to many of the members and Mr. Koch was asked to make some arrangement for printing the information thus gathered.

Finally Mr. Martel referred briefly to the first two parts of the new "International cata-

logue of scientific literature," and the meeting adjourned before 10 o'clock.

R. K. SHAW, *Secretary*.

## INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Eva M. Fitzgerald, Public Library, Kokomo.

*Secretary:* Miss Bertha F. Poindexter, Public Library, Jeffersonville.

*Treasurer:* Miss Virginia Tutt.

The eleventh annual meeting of the Indiana Library Association was held in Indianapolis on Oct. 28 and 29. Sessions were held in the state house, where on the morning of the 28th, the president, Miss Elrod, opened the program with a short address on the more significant library events of the year.

Miss Merica Hoagland, library organizer for the state, gave an address on "The library movement in Indiana for 1902." She reported visiting the 28 Carnegie libraries now established, and stated that the demands upon the state library commission were now very much greater than a year ago. Miss Eliza Browning gave an account of the A. L. A. conference at Magnolia, which was followed by brief statements from others who had attended that conference upon the features that had most impressed them in connection with it.

"Special lines of particular publishers" was the subject presented by F. R. Kautz, of Indianapolis, who gave practically a historical sketch of some of the older publishing houses.

In the afternoon, following the appointment of committees, Miss Anna Hubbard spoke on "Reference aids for a small library." Her talk was addressed to librarians having \$150 per year to spend for such books, and she recommended 50 useful reference books, costing from 35 c. to \$3 each. There was an informal discussion, many members suggesting books that had been of special service to them, and the talk served as an excellent opening for the "Experience meeting symposium" which followed it. This latter proved most successful, bringing librarians of the smaller libraries into helpful association with one another, and eliciting informal spontaneous discussion. The topics considered were Systematic work, School and library, Discipline, Personality of the librarian, Fines, Selecting books for patrons, Fads, Advertising.

In the evening Melvil Dewey spoke to a large audience on "The educational value of the public library," and later an informal reception was held in the state library rooms.

Wednesday morning's session was devoted to Libraries and schools. Arthur Cunningham, of the State Normal Library, spoke on "Reference work with teachers," outlining the course given at the State Normal Library. Mr. Dewey agreed that the normal school should train the pupil-teacher for work with the public library. He favored institutes and training classes, but emphasized the necessity of capable and well-equipped instructors.

"The relation of the superintendent of schools to the library" was presented in a paper by T. F. Fitzgibbons, superintendent of schools of Columbus, who said that the superintendent should strive to make the public school a preparatory school, in the highest and best sense, for that larger school, the library—the university of the community.

In the evening, W. E. Henry, state librarian, spoke on "The comparative cost of library buildings," saying that library boards in Indiana are paying two and three times as much for their buildings as are paid for school and church buildings. Miss Hoagland endorsed this, but added that building cost has been unusually high this year, that local architects are not used to handling library construction, and that the local pride of a community is not satisfied unless a handsome library building is erected.

Reports from the several committees were then received. The nominating committee recommended the following as officers for the ensuing year: president, Miss Eva M. Fitzgerald; vice-president, Miss Belle Hanna; secretary, Miss Bertha Poindexter; treasurer, Miss Virginia Tutt. The secretary was instructed to cast one vote for this ticket, which was thereupon declared elected. Resolutions of thanks for local hospitalities were passed and a proposed amendment to the constitution was reported on. This would provide that each member of the association should be entitled to a vote instead of giving one vote to each library represented, as is now the case. The committee submitted a majority report favoring the change, signed by Mrs. Earle and Miss Allen, and a minority report in opposition from Mr. Cunningham. Action was deferred until the next meeting of the association.

The meeting was the most successful yet held, in point of attendance, freedom of discussion, and enthusiasm.

#### IOWA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Johnson Brigham, state librarian, Des Moines.

*Secretary:* Miss Clara Estabrook, Public Library, Eldora.

*Treasurer:* M. Hall Douglas, Grinnell.

The 13th annual meeting of the Iowa Library Association was held in Grinnell, Oct. 28-30. The attendance was larger than at any previous meeting, 108 persons being registered, besides many friends and visitors who attended for a part of the sessions.

The opening session Tuesday evening was held in the beautiful new Colonial Theatre. The program opened with music furnished by the Iowa College Glee Club. Professor Parker, trustee of the Stewart Public Library, presided and introduced the new president of Iowa College, Dr. Bradley, who greeted the association in a graceful address

of welcome. This was responded to by Mr. F. F. Dawley of Cedar Rapids, president of the association, who after a few words of appreciation on behalf of the association, gave an address on the outlook of library affairs in Iowa. In reviewing the progress of the last two years, he said, "If it had not been for the influence of women and women's clubs, who understand that there is something more in life than the mere earning of a living, many of the new libraries would not yet have commenced their existence," and in answering the question, "What is the place of the library in education," "If one is ever to become more than a heaver of wood and a carrier of water he must always keep on not only acquiring personal experience in his calling but studying it and its history, and its relations to other affairs, and the experience of others in the same calling. That which any one man can see with his own eyes and hear with his own ears is but a trifle compared with the experience of all mankind in the same affairs."

Wednesday morning, the business session at 9.30 occupied about one hour, after which a report on "Library extension in Iowa" was given by Miss Tyler, the secretary of the Iowa Library Commission. This report briefly set forth the agencies which are active in extending library interests in Iowa in addition to the commission, which exists primarily for this purpose. Among these is the receptive attitude of the people of Iowa toward an educational movement, the activity of the club women, both locally and through the State Federation of Women's Clubs, the impetus given to the work through the library buildings being erected through Mr. Carnegie's generosity and also by Iowa citizens, among whom during the past year are Hon. C. J. A. Erricson of Boone, Mr. P. M. Musser of Muscatine, Ex-Gov. F. M. Drake of Centerville, and Hon. Joel Stewart of Grinnell. The spirit of improvement among both librarians and trustees was noted and also the attention given to the children in providing a children's room or corner in many libraries and abolishing the age limit. Library legislation has during the past year transferred the travelling library from the state library board to the Iowa Library Commission and makes the extension of the travelling library work possible. The revised commission law provides for a report on library conditions in Iowa, containing sketches and illustrations of the libraries in the state to be printed next year. It is hoped this will be a valuable document in library extension in the state. A list of the places visited by the secretary during the past year was given; also, a list of the free public libraries in the state in which any event of importance had occurred during the year or which are erecting buildings, 42 being enumerated. A list was also given of the county seats having no free public library supported by municipal tax and those present were

urged to co-operate with the commission in inaugurating the work in these towns.

The Round Table of practical methods conducted by Miss Harriet L. McCrory, librarian of the Cedar Rapids Public Library, created much interest, the topics under discussion being, Work vs. weariness, Borrowing ideas from neighboring libraries, Publicity, Staff training and the apprentice system. Under the last topic, Miss McCrory explained the attitude of the Cedar Rapids Library where an apprentice class has been conducted for the past two years. The distinction was shown between such a class, which only attempted to prepare assistants for the local library, and the library training given in the regular library schools and summer schools.

At 1.30, a drive was given through the courtesy of the Public Improvement Association of Grinnell and when the meeting convened, the general theme, Library work with children, the school and the library, was announced. Mrs. Charlotte Whitney Eastman, editor *The Young Citizen*, Cedar Falls, spoke on "Educational ideals in schools and library," urging that children be familiarized, through books, with the most noble and pure ideals of character and life. She gave suggestions of means whereby children might be attracted to the library—the use of pictures and the choice of books on timely subjects. "New duties, new responsibilities, are fast opening up for the librarian of children's books, and she should be given new authority. Here she should be enabled, after all reasoning with the child has failed, to say 'You can not.'"

This paper was discussed by Miss Harriet A. Wood, who emphasized the educational side of the librarian's profession and dwelt upon the importance of a capable librarian in maintaining the educational ideals of the library.

"Personal element of library work with children" was the subject of a thoughtful paper by Miss Lillian Pospishil, children's librarian, Cedar Rapids. She said in part: "The personal element begins with the atmosphere we create in the children's room. To make it as homelike as possible, and as much unlike the schoolroom as we can, is to be desired. If it is so pleasant that it attracts the child who, perhaps, has come from curiosity alone, to find out what the library is like, it is living up to the requirements. To make them feel we know and love our books is the best way to produce in a child the reverence due to a good book. The man who wrote 'The librarian who reads is lost' evidently knew little or nothing of work with children, for here a knowledge of the books themselves is the important element. Knowing your books and knowing your children, to bring the two together is comparatively easy. The child who once feels you are really interested in what he is reading, and that you know the books he enjoys as well as he

does, will come to you perhaps oftener than there is any need, but you have the satisfaction of feeling that you are in touch with his wants and know when it is necessary to help him."

This paper was discussed by Mrs. C. H. Bryant, trustee Corning Library, who was followed by Miss Ruth G. Gatch, Des Moines Public Library.

"How the library and school may work together" was presented by Miss Marilla W. Freeman, librarian of the Davenport Public Library. Miss Freeman spoke of her experience in helping to bring about a closer co-operation between the library school and gave many practical hints as to how such co-operation may be accomplished.

Miss Mary E. Downey, librarian of the Ottumwa Public Library, outlined her plan for "Talks to school children on the use of books," suggesting the possibilities for instruction in familiarizing the children with the resources of the library.

The meeting of the college librarians was held in the conference room simultaneously with the general meeting in the auditorium.

In the evening, Rabbi Hirsch, Chicago, gave an address on "Libraries and education."

On Thursday morning, the first hour was devoted to the business meeting. The committee on place of meeting reported three invitations, but Marshalltown was recommended, owing to its central location. The standing committees for the ensuing year were announced and the following officers were elected: president, Johnson Brigham, state librarian; vice-president, Mrs. C. H. McNider, Mason City; secretary, Miss Clara Estabrook, Eldora; treasurer, M. Hale Douglas, Grinnell.

The general theme of the morning program was "Books and reading." "The clubs and the library" was the title of a paper presented by Mrs. Jessie Waite Davidson, Burlington, a member of the Iowa Library Commission. This paper written by one who has been prominently identified with the Iowa Federation of Women's Clubs, set forth the mutual helpfulness of club and library, emphasizing the service the librarian can render to the club women.

Miss Ella McLoney, librarian of the Des Moines Public Library, discussed this paper from the point of view of a librarian in close touch with club work. She described the methods in use in the Des Moines Library which had proven helpful to club women. Mrs. C. H. McNider, trustee, Mason City, followed with a most interesting description of what had been accomplished for the local library by the club women of Mason City.

An address by Judge H. E. Deemer of the Iowa Supreme Court on "The selection of books" was a stimulating and thoughtful presentation of this important subject. It was briefly discussed by Mr. H. M. Dysart, librarian, Fairfield. Rev. E. M. Vittum, trus-



tee, Grinnell, spoke on the perennial "Question of fiction" in a most discriminating manner and this was discussed by Mr. Johnson Brigham, state librarian.

The general theme for the afternoon session was, "Management of libraries and responsibilities of trustees." "Responsibilities of trustees to readers," by Mrs. H. J. Howe, presented in a most pleasing manner the duties of the trustee and the possibilities for far-reaching usefulness for one who occupies this responsible position. The paper was discussed by Mr. Geo. F. Henry, trustee, Des Moines, who emphasized the responsibility of the trustee to the taxpayer.

A comprehensive paper on the subject of library buildings was presented by Mr. Grant C. Miller, of the firm of Patton & Miller, architects, Chicago. Mr. Miller outlined the steps to be taken in the erection of a building and the rooms necessary in a small library, basing his arrangement on free access to shelves and with a view to economical administration. In the evening those especially interested in the subject had an opportunity to examine the plans of buildings now being erected in Iowa.

The chief interest of the afternoon program centered about the guest of honor, Melvil Dewey, who discussed "Questions of administration" in his usual, characteristic and inspiring manner. The live and practical questions relating to the best conduct of a library were set forth and his own advanced views as to the relation of the national, state and local libraries were outlined, and following this, the Question Box, conducted by Mr. Dewey, gave ample opportunity for expression of his views on many phases of library work. His presence was an inspiration and he was enthusiastically received by the association and the students of Iowa College, whom he addressed at chapel, both Thursday and Friday mornings.

An informal reception was given at the new Stewart Library building of the Grinnell Free Library on Tuesday evening and the closing feature of the meeting was a reception given at the college gymnasium by Iowa College and Grinnell people.

MARGARET BROWN, *Secretary*.

#### KANSAS LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Carrie M. Watson, University of Kansas Library, Lawrence.

*Secretary:* Miss Zu Adams, State Historical Library, Topeka.

*Treasurer:* Miss Syrena McKee, Public Library, Leavenworth.

The second annual meeting of the Kansas Library Association was held in Topeka, Oct. 2 and 3. The association was invited by the Topeka City Federation of Women's Clubs to hear a program prepared by them for the afternoon of Oct. 2. In the evening, Miss L. E. Stearns, the official organizer of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, Madison,

Wis., gave an interesting paper on "Wanted—the library spirit." At the meeting the next morning, the president, Mr. James L. King, state librarian, reviewed the work of the association during the past year. The relation of the library to the schools was discussed by Miss Stearns, Miss Walsh, of Ottawa, President Wilkinson and Professor Hill, of the State Normal School. Upon invitation Miss Stearns conducted a question box in a very enthusiastic and helpful manner. A business meeting was held, at which the above mentioned officers were elected, with Mr. J. L. King, State Library, Topeka, Mr. Wilkinson, president Kansas Normal School, Emporia, and Miss Julia M. Walsh, Public Library, Ottawa, as vice-presidents. A committee on library legislation was named.

#### KEYSTONE STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Isabel Ely Lord, librarian Bryn Mawr College, Bryn Mawr, Pa.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Robert P. Bliss, librarian Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Pa.

The second annual meeting of the Keystone State Library Association was held in Williamsport, Oct. 17-19. All the association meetings were held in the Park Hotel, the headquarters for the meeting. The first session was on Friday evening at 8. It was announced that there would be no discussion of the papers of the evening, as these would be the topic for the round tables on Saturday evening.

Mr. Edwin H. Anderson, librarian of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and president of the association, made his presidential address in the form of a brief statement of library conditions in Pennsylvania, as follows:

"In the number of books for every 100 of population Pennsylvania stood thirteenth among the states of the Union in 1891, twelfth in 1896, and thirteenth again in 1900. It will be seen, therefore, that while Pennsylvania ranks second only to New York in wealth and population, she by no means holds her proper rank in library development.

"It was with the idea of removing this stigma from our state that the act creating the Pennsylvania Free Library Commission was placed on our statute books in 1899. Unfortunately the legislature of 1898-99 failed to make any appropriation for the use of the commission, whose members, therefore, found themselves without the means to carry on the work for which they were appointed. Through private subscription, however, they managed to raise \$2800 with which to begin a travelling library system. The legislature of 1900-01 made an appropriation of \$1500 for each of the two following years. The commission has therefore had for the prosecution of its work only \$5800 in four years, nearly half of which has come from private subscriptions. For similar purposes the legislature of New

York last year appropriated about \$60,000. The Wisconsin Free Library Commission has about \$10,000 a year for its work. There are other states far ahead of Pennsylvania in this respect, notably Ohio, Michigan, Iowa and Massachusetts. In fact Pennsylvania is hardly in the running, compared with other states which have really entered upon the work of stimulating library development. Our commission has done well with the funds at its disposal, having 80 travelling libraries now in the field, and having only one paid worker, and this one only for the last few months. I do not think this association can better serve the purposes for which it was created than by making a determined effort to induce the legislature this coming winter to make an adequate appropriation for the work of the Pennsylvania Free Library Commission, and not for books only, but also for a sufficient number of trained workers.

"There is, I think, one radical defect in the law creating the Free Library Commission. This act provides that the state librarian shall be *ex-officio* the secretary of the commission. Now the state librarian is appointed by the governor and is removable at his pleasure. This automatically subjects the position to the vicissitudes of politics. I speak of general principles, and not, I beg you to believe, with any personal reference to the present distinguished incumbent in the state library. The efficiency and continuity of the work of the commission are largely dependent upon its secretary, the state librarian. He should not be subject to the caprices of political weather. He should be compensated for the additional responsibilities placed upon him and be provided with a sufficient number of competent, paid assistants to carry on this extra work. He should be appointed by the commission and perform his duties to the state under the commission's general direction. This seems the easiest way out of the difficulty, since the commission would thus secure a paid official under its own control, with suitable quarters at the state capitol. Continuity as well as efficiency of administration would thus be secured."

Mr. Anderson then introduced Mr. Frederick M. Crunden of St. Louis. Mr. Crunden read a brilliant, thoughtful and most suggestive paper entitled "Public libraries a paying investment for a community." This will be published later by the association. Mr. Anderson then introduced Mrs. Salome Cutler Fairchild, vice-director of the New York State Library School. Mrs. Fairchild gave a careful and full account of the origin and development of library institutes. She was followed by Mr. Frank A. Hutchins, secretary of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, who talked on travelling libraries. Mr. Hutchins laid special stress on the necessity for the right people to carry on the work, if that work was to command true success. The first session then closed.

The second session began at 9.30 Saturday morning, the meeting, after the business session, being in charge of Mr. John Thomson, librarian of the Free Library of Philadelphia, and chairman of the committee appointed at the last annual meeting to consider the subject of the differentiation of fiction. The report presented and a summary of the ensuing discussion are presented elsewhere.

Saturday afternoon was left free for the enjoyment of the beautiful country about Williamsport, and for the informal conferences that are so often the best part of such a meeting. The managers of the hotel provided as part of the entertainment a trolley trip about the town. At four a tea was given to the members of the association by the trustees and librarian of the Public School Library in their attractive library rooms. These were gay with flowers for the occasion, and there was every other evidence of hospitality. In the evening at eight the third and last session was held. It consisted of two round table discussions, one after the other, on the subjects of the last two papers of Friday evening. The first, on "Library institutes," was conducted by Miss Lord, librarian of Bryn Mawr College. The second, on "Travelling libraries," was in charge of Mr. Henry J. Carr, librarian of the Public Library of Scranton. Among those who discussed the questions presented were Mr. Stevenson and Mr. Thomson, of the Pennsylvania Free Library Commission; Miss Krichbaum, recording secretary to the commission; Miss Kroecker of the Drexel Institute, Philadelphia; Mr. Eastman, New York state library inspector; Mr. Bowerman, of the Wilmington (Del.) Institute Library; Miss Kane, recently librarian of the Delaware Free Library Commission; Mr. Fletcher, of the Carnegie Public Library of Bradford; Mr. Durham, of Reading; Professor Martin, of Bucknell College; Mrs. Fairchild, Mr. Crunden and Mr. Hutchins. During the discussion on travelling libraries Miss Lord reported that she had gone to the meeting of the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women to address them on the subject of travelling libraries, and to secure their support in the attempt to get a more nearly adequate appropriation for the work of the commission from the next legislature. She reported the following resolution adopted by the federation:

"Resolved, That the State Federation of Pennsylvania women pledges its support to the Keystone State Library Association and stands ready to do all in its power to secure an appropriation for the Free Library Commission when the time is propitious."

In reply the following resolution was adopted by the association:

"Resolved, That the Keystone State Library Association extend its hearty thanks to the State Federation of Pennsylvania Women for their effective co-operation already given in advancing library interests in this state, and also for their promise of aid for the future."



Among the other resolutions passed were the following:

"Whereas, Certain critical journals of wide circulation and many local newspapers regularly publish circulation lists of the most popular books in public libraries, these lists being predominantly the latest fiction successes, which are already sufficiently advertised by puffis, reviews and regular book advertisements; be it

*Resolved*, That the Keystone State Library Association views with regret the fact that the librarians who give out such information seem to lend the influence of their libraries to the advertisement of books whose circulation is already abnormally stimulated when it should in many cases be reduced rather than increased; and be it

*Resolved*, That this association puts itself on record as opposed to the giving out by libraries of such lists (particularly of fiction) for publication."

It was also moved, as a result of Saturday morning's meeting, that a committee of three librarians be appointed to obtain the assistance of some 20 of the smaller libraries or branches of large libraries in testing the proposed scheme for the differentiation of fiction. The president appointed Mr. John Thomson, Mr. W. M. Stevenson, and Mr. Albert R. Durham, librarian of the Public Library of Reading.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: president, Isabel Ely Lord, librarian of Bryn Mawr College; vice-president, Robert S. Fletcher, librarian of the Carnegie Public Library, Bradford; secretary-treasurer, Robert P. Bliss, librarian of the Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester. These officers later chose the two other members of the executive committee as follows: Eliza May Willard, reference librarian of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh; Thomas Lynch Montgomery, librarian of the Wagner Free Institute Library, Philadelphia.

Many of the members stayed on for Sunday, for the sake of better acquaintance with fellow-members. The meeting was altogether a most satisfactory one. There were about 75 in attendance. The association intends to publish the papers of the meeting for distribution. The transactions of the previous meeting have been printed and were distributed at Williamsport.

#### MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: George T. Little, Bowdoin College Library, Brunswick.

*Secretary*: Ernest W. Emery, State Library, Augusta.

*Treasurer*: Alice C. Furbish, Public Library, Portland.

A union meeting of librarians and others interested in library work was held at Fairfield on Wednesday, Oct. 15. Its forces consisted of the Maine Library Association, of the state library commission and of the Eastern Maine Library Club. It was the eighth annual meeting of the state association whose officers believed a larger and more successful meeting could be held by inviting the other two organizations to meet with them. The sessions were held in the reading room

of the beautiful Lawrence Free Library building in Fairfield, and were attended by about 50 persons.

The conference was called to order by the president, Mrs. Mary H. Curran. The minutes of the meeting of the association held at Magnolia, Mass., last June were read by the secretary, and the treasurer, Miss Furbish, of Portland, presented her report. The committee on design for an association pin reported, showing design that had been accepted by the committee, which design was adopted by the association.

Officers of the association were then elected for the ensuing year as follows: president, George T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick; vice-presidents, Miss Annie Prescott, Auburn, Miss Carrie Smythe Greene, Bangor; secretary, Ernest W. Emery, Maine State Library, Augusta; treasurer, Miss Alice C. Furbish, Portland.

Invitations for place of holding the next meeting were received from Saco and Portland and were referred to the executive committee.

A recess was then called and business meetings of the Eastern Maine Library Club and of the state library commission were held in different rooms. At the latter the resignation of Mr. Little from his place on the commission was accepted with sincere regret.

The meeting was then reassembled, and Miss Carrie S. Green, librarian of Bangor Seminary, read a paper on "Children's reading rooms." The work done for public libraries of the state by the state library commission was presented by Mrs. Kate Estabrooke, of the commission, who spoke especially of the travelling libraries sent out to women's clubs, granges, and like centers. Ralph K. Jones, librarian of the University of Maine, spoke on "Direct co-operation of college and public libraries," urging interlibrary loans and the issue of a co-operative list of periodicals or valuable sets as means of bringing the two types of libraries into closer relations.

The afternoon session opened with a paper by L. D. Carver, state librarian, on "The value and use of state publications," noting some of the most important and interesting of these documents, and urging their more intelligent use in public libraries. Papers followed on "Fines and penalties," by J. H. Winchester, of the Stewart Library, Corinna; and "What pamphlets should the small library preserve?" by E. W. Hall, of Colby College Library, Waterville. There was a well-filled question box, from which drawings were made at intervals during both morning and afternoon, and a general "experience meeting" on "New books worth buying," opened by Mr. Little, while nearly every topic elicited spontaneous discussion.

In the evening Arthur J. Roberts, of Colby College, delivered an address on "Books and reading," which was enjoyed by a large audience.

## MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Otto Fleischer, Public Library, Boston.

*Secretary:* T. F. Currier, Harvard College Library, Cambridge.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theodosia McCurdy, Public Library, Boston.

The fall meeting of the club was held in New Bedford and Fairhaven on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 1902. After inspecting the Public Library of New Bedford, the club adjourned to the city hall, where Mr. Tripp, librarian of the Public Library, welcomed the members in behalf of the mayor.

Mr. Robert A. Woods, head of the South End House, Boston, read a paper on the "Bearing of settlement work on the public library." He began by telling of the free public library campaign for Whitechapel district in London, carried on under the leadership of Toynbee Hall. The settlement, he said, is a small neighborhood influence and there is need of many of them.

It is a settlement principle to begin with people on the basis of their own interests, and by sharing common experiences, instill better ideas. A particular function of the settlement is to be a "talent saving station on the shore of poverty." Children stop going to school at an early age, and stop perhaps at the very point where, if a bit more schooling could be obtained, they might be in a position mentally to continue their education. The settlement tries to deal with these children who have talents but are not led on to develop them. People of wealth might well give money to aid these deserving children, to help them into the secondary schools just as scholarships are given to aid in getting a college education. The public library can somewhat make good the loss of school education. Perhaps the public library will be the selecting power to find bright boys and girls who are worthy to be carried on. In the smaller places the public library might be the talent saving station.

Another service the settlement renders is providing a common ground for the meeting of the educated with the uneducated, the capitalist and the laborer, the Roman Catholic and the Protestant, the Christian and the Jew, the immigrant and the native. In a democracy there should be a unity of feeling. This unity is not coming as rapidly as it should, and the settlements work to bring together these separated classes. It is possible for the public library to make itself a social center and meeting place for these classes. Of course the library may get hold of these people more or less, but only as individuals and not in a definite meeting with each other. The public library is the neutral ground and could bring together representatives of all the different sets existing in any given community and could thus increase its readers and its influence.

The public library tries to meet the needs of special occupations, but does it make con-

nections with the trade unions or local benefit associations, etc., as the settlement takes a gang of boys who have a common interest? The public library could increase its missionary functions. It should be the organized center for better government, aesthetic improvement, and higher social life.

Mr. Woods was followed by Miss Sarah C. van der Carr, of the Loring Reading Room, North Plymouth, Mass., who told of her experience with boys' reading clubs.

After luncheon a visit was paid to the Mill-cent Library, and other places of interest in Fairhaven.

## MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Henry M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Miss Margaret C. Upleger, Public Library, Mount Clemens.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. F. Jewell, Public Library, Adrian.

The 12th annual meeting of the Michigan Library Association was held at Detroit, Oct. 11 and 12, and proved the largest in the history of the association. Sessions were held in the rooms of the Fellowcraft Club. The opening session was called to order at 2 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 10, when President Utley introduced Mr. John S. Gray, president of the Detroit Library Commission, who gave the address of welcome. In referring to the remarkable present development of public libraries, he cited figures showing the increase in the use of the Detroit Public Library within the decade as compared with increase in the city's population during the same period. "In 1890 the population of the city was 205,660 and in 1900 287,704, an increase of 40 per cent. In 1890 the circulation was 292,877, and in 1900 it was 1,057,412, an increase of 277 per cent., or 237 per cent. greater than the increase in population. Lest any one should say this is entirely due to the increase in our reference room, it may be further stated that the percentage of increase in home reading alone is 113 per cent. for the time in question."

Mr. H. S. Pattengill, of Lansing, formerly superintendent of instruction for the state, and recently elected to fill the place of the retiring Hon. Cyrus W. Luce on the Free Library Commission of Michigan, gave an interesting talk upon "The schools and the public library." He spoke of the close relation of schools and the libraries, saying that while the schools lay the foundation of an education it is but a preparation for the supplementary work of the library, and that where schools do not cultivate a taste for good reading, they fail in their work.

He spoke also of the work the free libraries were doing and the extension of its usefulness that was being contemplated for the benefit of the rural districts. His remarks were followed by a few words upon the travelling libraries of the state, by Mrs. Mary C. Spencer, secretary of the commission and

state librarian, who originated the system in Michigan.

"Library progress of the year," was reviewed by H. O. Severance, of the University of Michigan Library, who dwelt upon the great increase in gifts to libraries, especially of buildings, the movement for library instruction through normal school course, institutes and like agencies, and the gradual organization and systematization of library effort. Miss Gertrude Humphrey, librarian of the Lansing Public Library, followed with a paper on "The selection of books for a small public library." She gave a thoroughly practical exposition of the conditions and methods regarding selection of books at the Lansing Public Library.

Miss Humphrey's paper was followed by a list of questions from the "Question box," which elicited general discussion.

Oct. 11 having been set aside as Pioneer Day in Michigan, the association was fortunate in the presence of Mr. C. M. Burton, of Detroit, president of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society, who gave a very interesting talk upon "Collecting in the public library, everything of a local historical character." Mr. Burton has for the past 30 years been indefatigable in his search for historical matter bearing upon the history of Detroit, and has gathered, as a result, one of the best historical libraries in the state. He gave a very interesting account of his library, which contains 15,000 volumes connected with the history of Detroit, 300,000 pamphlets, and 400 volumes of unpublished manuscript, consisting of letters, narratives, diaries, account books, reaching back to the time of Cadillac in 1701. Some years since Mr. Burton set a writer at work in the archives of the Department of Marine in Paris, to make a transcription of everything relative to the Northwest Territory. This work was very completely carried out, and is embodied in 24 volumes of closely written manuscript pages, which are now being printed as are the Jesuit Relations, the French on one side and the translation on the other. Mr. Burton has also procured a complete transcript of the old Notarial Records of Montreal, pertaining to the upper countries and will shortly have like records from Quebec. These papers fill 30 volumes of closely written foolscap. His method of keeping them is to have books made for the purpose, consisting of covers and stubs. The documents are arranged as nearly as possible in chronological order, and then pasted at the margin on the stubs in such a way as to permit the reading of every word of the manuscript. Sometimes there is no margin on which to paste and in that case, the document is sewed in its proper place, so that it may be detached without injury and replaced after using. They are then indexed. The pamphlets are kept in cases made for the purpose and cataloged, as other books

are cataloged, by the card system. Mr. Burton has recently been thinking of having a catalog of these made and printed for distribution among college libraries, with an offer on his part to send the pamphlets for inspection and study to any college requesting them for use by its students, upon their agreeing to return the same within a specified limit of time. He has been wondering whether this would be acceptable to colleges, and would like an expression of opinion on the subject from those who would be interested in the matter.

The second session was held in the evening, by invitation, at the residence of Mr. James E. Scripps, and was devoted to the joint discussion, with the club women of Detroit, of the subject "The woman's club and the library." This was based upon a paper by Mrs. George H. Stevens, of the Woman's Historical Club, who emphasized the value of the library to all members of clubs and study courses. She urged that clubs give early notice at the library of the subjects to be studied during the year, so that careful reference lists might be available, and she recommended that if possible the library assign a special room, or portion of a room, for the use of club members. This was followed with a few remarks by Mrs. G. Robinson, and Mrs. J. B. MacFarlane made a plea for development of musical collections in public libraries. Mr. Jones, of the Normal College of Ypsilanti, was called upon, and made a brief, happy response. Refreshments were served, and the visitors later enjoyed the treasures of Mr. Scripps' fine library.

Saturday morning's session opened with a discussion of "Points on the binding of library books," by W. C. Holland, of Ann Arbor, and L. B. Gilmore, of the Detroit Public Library. The former reviewed, with comments and practical suggestions, the "Directions for binding," of F. J. Soldan, published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for June, 1883. Mr. Gilmore gave much valuable advice, the result of his ten years' experience in the binding of books for the Detroit Library. He spoke in the first place of the agencies destructive to book bindings, i.e., gas, heat, dust and sunlight; saying that the carbonic acid gas and carbon dioxide, arising from poor ventilation, which most libraries claim to be the most destructive factors, are not as much to be feared, at least can more easily be dealt with than the sulphuric acid gas arising from the sulphuric acid used by modern tanners and not properly washed out. He recommended highly the Fall River method of dusting the books and as to destructive sunlight recommended that red, yellow and green glass be used as a protection where the sun strikes, white, violet and blue glass being hard upon both books and bindings.

A "Round table on practical public library work followed," conducted by Miss Phebe Parker, of the Sage Library, West Bay City.

The subjects treated were Organization, Buildings, Fittings, Accessioning, Classification, Cataloging, and Meeting the public, each presented, briefly and practically, by a different speaker. The last subject was treated by Miss Genevieve Walton, librarian of the State Normal School, Ypsilanti, who said, in part:

"It is said that there are certain professions to which one must be born, and I firmly believe that unless a librarian is born with an *interest* in people, there are certain functions of her office which she can never perform. To interest, I would add patience. A librarian's time should be fully at the disposal of the public, for the public to use, but not for the public to abuse. I know full well the amount of detail work and clerical work that must be done in the smallest library, but I would still insist that the first work of the librarian is to meet the public, and one fatal mistake that is too often made, is having the head librarian back out of sight, pasting on labels or writing cards, while an indifferent assistant, or worse, the substitute of an assistant, is left at the delivery desk, where the public is standing with a right to expect the best help the library affords.

"Women librarians make one or two mistakes, which we rarely find in men. In fact the difference between men and women in business relations, has some very interesting aspects. A woman too often works on nerve (and a cold luncheon). Then we reach the fatigue limit, and then we get cross. If women would only regard that fatigue line more seriously, and keep on the inside of it! Then, again, even in business, a woman makes a personal application when none is intended. Correct her and her feelings are hurt, and finally she ends a hard day by carrying home both work and worry. Good nature, and the saving grace of humor would go far to overcome this and keep one in a serene state of mind and body, which are the great points in meeting the public."

There was a short business meeting early in the afternoon, when the officers of the association were unanimously re-elected, as follows: president, Henry M. Utley, Detroit Public Library; first vice-president, H. O. Severance, University of Michigan Library; second vice-president, Miss Phebe Parker, Sage Library, West Bay City; treasurer, Mrs. M. F. Jewell, librarian of the Public Library, Adrian; secretary, Miss Margaret C. Upleger, librarian Public Library, Mount Clemens. The meeting was pleasantly closed with a trolley trip around the city, stopping at various places of interest and visiting the branch library at the Central High School. During the trip resolutions of thanks to the local hosts were adopted.

The place of meeting was not finally determined upon, the association awaiting the decision of the A. L. A. The meeting will be held in conjunction with the A. L. A. conference if the latter is held at Mackinac.

#### MISSOURI LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* J. F. Langton, Public Library, St. Louis.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Faith E. Smith, Public Library, Sedalia.

The first session of the third annual meeting of the Missouri Library Association was called to order at 3.30 p.m. Oct. 23, at the Carnegie building of the Sedalia Public Library, with an attendance of 38. Mrs. Carrie Westlake Whitney, president of the association, was in the chair. Mr. Lee Montgomery, representing the library board of the Sedalia Public Library, made a short address of welcome, which was responded to by Mrs. Whitney.

The secretary then read his report as treasurer, and the report was referred to an auditing committee consisting of Mr. Burnet and Miss Simonds. The president appointed a nominating committee consisting of Mr. Crunden, Miss Thompson and Miss Bishop.

Mr. Crunden, of the committee on a model library at the World's Fair, read a paper on that project. He detailed the progress made up to this time in inducing the Executive Committee of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition to grant such a sum of money as will enable the construction of a suitable building on the grounds of the Exposition. No definite results have as yet been attained, but it is hoped that some progress will be made very soon. The formal report of General Milton Moore, chairman of the committee, was read by the secretary.

In the absence of Miss Ahern, who was to have read a paper on the "Relation of the trustee to the library," the secretary read a symposium compiled by her from letters written by prominent librarians. Mr. Crunden and Mr. Whiteford also spoke.

The paper on "Library buildings for small libraries" was read by Mr. Wright. He was followed by Mr. J. L. Mauran of St. Louis, and Mr. F. C. Gunn of Kansas City, both practicing architects, who discussed the question in the light of their experience in constructing several such buildings.

In the evening a reception was tendered to the visiting delegates by the Sedalia Public Library board.

The second session was called to order at 9.30 a.m. on Friday, and was opened by a paper by Mr. Duncan Burnet, on "The selection of books for small libraries." Mr. J. F. Langton took up the discussion, calling attention to the fact that the prime requisite to successful book selection is a study of the constituency of the library. Miss May Simonds then read a paper on the "Province of periodicals," showing the great value of such publications and the best methods for their use. Miss Anna Powers led the discussion. "Library commissions, their nature and functions" was a subject of an address by Miss Alice Tyler, of the Iowa commission. She described the rise of the commission idea, its

development in the various states, the system of co-operation between the different commissions, and the methods of work in the Iowa commission. Mr. Wright and others discussed the prospects of the passage of a library commission bill at the coming session of the General Assembly and the relation of the commission to the present library board.

Mr. J. A. Whiteford and Mr. G. V. Buchanan spoke on "District school libraries" from the viewpoint of the superintendent of schools. They called particular attention to the lack of training in the use of books displayed by the graduates of normal schools. Mr. Wright was appointed as delegate to the Missouri Teachers' Association which is to be held at St. Louis.

In the afternoon the first paper on "The evolution of trifles" was read by Miss Bishop. She spoke of the value of many things not esteemed of much consequence by the ordinary library, and detailed the methods by which newspaper clippings are made available at the Kansas City Library. Miss Tutt led the discussion.

Mr. F. A. Sampson, secretary of the State Historical Association, then read a paper on the "Public documents of the state of Missouri." He called particular attention to the difficulties in the way of collection by reason of the low estimate placed by the public on such documents and criticised very severely the method of publication.

The question box, in the absence of Miss Ahern, was conducted by Mr. Langton. After the completion of the program the association took up the regular business.

A vote of thanks was passed expressing the gratitude of the association to Miss Tyler for her kindness in attending the meeting and reading the paper on "Library commissions."

The auditing committee reported that the report of the treasurer was found correct, and it was accordingly received and filed.

The following amendment to the constitution, which was proposed at the last meeting of the association, was passed:

*Resolved*, That the constitution of this Association is hereby amended by striking out the words, "50 cents", in line one of section VI, and the words "one dollar" inserted in lieu thereof, so that said sections amended should read:

Dues and debts. The annual fee shall be one dollar. No officer, committee, or member of the Association shall incur any expense in its name, nor shall the treasurer make any payment from its funds unless authorized to do so by a vote of the executive board.

The nominating committee made its report, and following officers were elected: president, Mr. J. F. Langton, St. Louis Public Library; 1st vice-president, Prof. W. F. Webb, Central College, Fayette; 2d vice-president, Miss Anna Powers, Warrensburg Normal School; secretary-treasurer, Miss Faith E. Smith, Sedalia Public Library.

Invitations for the next meeting of the association were received from Jefferson City and St. Joseph, and the matter of the de-

cision was referred to the executive committee.

It was voted to continue the library commission committee, consisting of Messrs. Lathrop, Yeater and Wright, for another year.

A motion was passed appointing a committee consisting of Mr. Crunden and two others of his selection to confer with the State Teachers' Association in regard to common interests.

The association then passed a vote of thanks to Miss Smith and the members of the Sedalia Board for their kindness and courtesy to the association during the session of the convention. The meeting then adjourned. In the evening the association listened to a very interesting address on "The argument for libraries," by Mr. Crunden.

#### NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President*: Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Lincoln.

*Secretary*: Miss Clara Mulliken, Lincoln.

*Treasurer*: Miss Margaret O'Brien, Public Library, Lincoln.

The eighth annual meeting of the Nebraska Library Association, held in the Omaha Public Library building, Oct 16 and 17 was successful in all its details. About 75 people were in attendance at each session and the membership enrolled into the association during the last year has reached a gratifying number.

This is the first year the meeting has not been held in Lincoln in connection with the State Teachers' Association. The innovation of another meeting place and a three session program instead of one session seemed to add dignity and enthusiasm. Prominent among the out-of-state visitors and lecturers were Dr. J. K. Hosmer, of Minneapolis, president of the American Library Association; Mr. Purd Wright, of St. Joseph Public Library, and Mr. Matthew Hale Douglass, of Grinnell College Library.

The first session on Thursday afternoon was one devoted almost entirely to the problems of the small town and village library. Small resources and an abundance of energy to build up a library is usually the situation — and this was truly the testimony of all the representatives who spoke during the afternoon. Two ladies who represented a small, newly organized library in McCook, Nebraska, had travelled hundreds of miles across the state to attend the meeting, and they roused warm interest with the sparkling stories of their persistent efforts to have a library whether the council would or no.

Miss Tobitt, the president, introduced the program with words of welcome.

Mr. Jay Amos Barrett gave a short talk on the Nebraska library law. He dealt with the best methods to use in working for establishment of libraries and particularly advocated emphasizing the practical use of libraries as



raising real estate values, when bringing the matter before the city council.

Miss Edna Bullock, secretary of the Public Library Commission, gave a report of the work accomplished through the commission, especially mentioning the traveling library as the only substantial way of encouraging the establishment of libraries where none exist.

The report was illustrated with a number of statistical maps showing the population of Nebraska cities and their relative progress in establishing libraries. Miss Bullock's report was very encouraging. It is to be regretted that the secretary cannot spend more of her time in doing field work, since there is more demand for her work than she has time to give outside her office duties.

Following this Mr. Ross G. Hammond, of Fremont; Mrs. W. G. Whitmore, of Valley; Mrs. Lane, of South Omaha, and Mrs. Berry, of McCook, gave interesting accounts of the establishment of libraries in their towns. This was one of the brightest parts of the program.

Miss Abbott, of Lincoln, read a paper on library plans from a librarian's standpoint, prepared by Mrs. John Reed, former librarian of the Lincoln Public Library, who was unable to be present herself. The paper showed an intelligent knowledge of the subject, and spoke of the responsibility of planning a library and the things to be taken into consideration in selecting a site and making the plans. Two short talks followed on the same subject by architects, one by Mr. Harry Lawrie, architect of the Lincoln Public Library, and the other by Mr. Pierce, who represented Mr. Thomas R. Kimball, the architect of the Omaha and the South Omaha public libraries. Mr. Cheek, of South Omaha, gave a short talk on the establishment and development of the library of that city.

Miss Pfeiffer, of the Omaha High School, closed the session with a good paper on "The use of the library by the schools." This was not a treatment of practical methods and devices by which schools may make use of the libraries, for libraries, she says, have already placed at the disposal of the schools more material than they have used. Miss Pfeiffer urged the teacher to realize her part in teaching the child appreciation of good books, mutual interest and sympathy between them.

The most delightful and attractive part of the program was the Thursday evening session, in which Dr. Hosmer addressed the association. He spoke upon "Books living and dead." His text he took from a suggestion of President Eliot, of Harvard, that "dead" books, such being indicated by failure to call for them for several years, should be put away in a receiving vault. Dr. Hosmer differed with President Eliot and instanced that a book might thus be classified as "dead"

to some and yet be alive to others, and for books as well as men there was a resurrection.

Preceding the lecture Lewis S. Reed, president of the Omaha Public Library board, sketched its beginning and development, its turning over to the city, the Byron Reed bequest and the erection and outfitting of the building.

The library building was thoroughly lighted and thrown open for inspection in all its departments. Music added to the pleasure. In the upper hall of the library Miss Tobitt had carefully arranged an exhibition of book-bindings, model plans for library buildings and a travelling library belonging to the commission.

The second day's session opened with a business meeting. The officers read their reports. The treasurer reported a large increase in funds. The invitation of Fremont Public Library to entertain the next meeting was accepted. A motion by Miss O'Brien was passed, in which the association expressed its sympathy with the movement of the Omaha Women's Club looking toward securing from the next legislature an increase in the appropriation of the state library commission. A committee was appointed to co-operate with the Women's Club in this work.

The following officers were elected: president, Edith Tobitt, Omaha; first vice-president, Jane Abbott, Lincoln; second vice-president, Mrs. C. L. Talbott, Omaha; treasurer, Margaret O'Brien, Omaha; secretary, Clara Mulliken, Lincoln.

The first paper of the program was given by Miss Compton on "Book-buying."

Miss Compton's paper presented the subject of the local dealer in favor of the larger publishing houses, and was warmly discussed by a number of those present.

Miss Parsons in her paper on "Public documents in a non-depository library" made a selection of the most useful city, state and federal publications for the small library. She likewise listed those that they need not buy.

In his paper, "How to advertise a library," Mr. Wright advocated that much more aggression be used in making the library known to the people. "The keeping everlastingly at it" is the keynote of his suggestions.

Mr. Douglas, of Iowa College Library, presented a paper on "Reference work in a small library," which was a valuable compilation of reference tools.

In conclusion the social features of the two days were most pleasant. On the last afternoon congenial parties visited the libraries of the Creighton University and Omaha High School. Mr. and Mrs. Haller, the former of whom is a member of the State Library Commission, invited the members of the association and their friends to their beautiful home for the remainder of the afternoon.

## NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Adam Strohm, Public Library, Trenton.

*Secretary:* Miss B. G. Carr, Princeton University Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Sarah S. Oddie, Public Library, East Orange.

The New Jersey Library Association held its 13th annual meeting in the Trenton Public Library on Oct. 15. Owing to the illness of Mr. Ayres, the president of the association, Mr. Bostwick, of New York, presided over the meeting. The meeting was opened by an address of welcome by Mr. F. S. Katzenbach, mayor of Trenton. The first paper on the program was by Dr. E. C. Richardson, of Princeton, on "The travelling librarian," in which was emphasized the necessity of travel to a successful librarian. Travel is a great educational factor, both in respect to general information and in respect to the technical knowledge of a librarian's work.

Then followed a discussion on "The establishment of libraries in small towns." This was opened by Mr. W. C. Kimball, who told of the lack of libraries in the state and the work that the public library commission has done to arouse interest in the small towns. Mr. Charles Baxter, state superintendent of schools, asked for co-operation in revising the lists of school reading and spoke of what has been accomplished in the school libraries. A general discussion followed and as a result the executive committee was empowered to appoint a committee to unite with the public library commission in exciting interest throughout the state for the establishment of libraries. The state is to be asked to put the charge of the travelling libraries in the hands of the public library commission. The executive committee is also empowered to appoint a committee of five to co-operate with the state superintendent of instruction in the revision of lists for school reading. It was decided to hold more frequent meetings through the winter of the nature of library institutes.

Mr. Dana, of Newark, then spoke of the great and lamentable dearth of literary matter connected with the state, and he with Mr. E. T. Tomlinson, of Elizabeth, was appointed a committee to collect information on the subject and as far as possible excite new efforts in that direction.

The report of the nominating committee was accepted and the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Adam Strohm, Trenton Public Library; vice-presidents, V. L. Collins, Library of Princeton University, and J. L. Naar, of Trenton; secretary, Miss B. G. Carr, Library of Princeton University; treasurer, Miss S. S. Oddie, East Orange Public Library. Luncheon was served at the Trenton House. In the afternoon visits were made to the state library and, through the courtesy of the Trenton Street Railway Company, a trolley trip was made to the library of Princeton University.

## OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. T. Porter, Public Library, Cincinnati.

*Secretary:* Miss Gertrude S. Kellicott, Public Library, Columbus.

*Treasurer:* Miss Grace Prince, Wittenberg College, Springfield.

The eighth annual meeting of the Ohio Library Association was held in Columbus, Oct. 1-3, with headquarters at the Great Southern Hotel. With the exception of the session of Wednesday afternoon at Ohio State University, all sessions were held in the convention hall of the hotel. In point of attendance the meeting was a successful one, though the number present from outside the city was not as large as was expected. In spite of the somewhat unfavorable weather the trip to the state university, the trolley ride, and visit to the state institution for the deaf and dumb, were most pleasing features of the meeting, and the local reception committee deserve the thanks of the association for their success in making the social side of the conference so attractive.

The efforts of the association during the past year have been directed entirely toward the passage of better library laws, and, naturally, a large part of the time of the annual meeting was devoted to a discussion of legislation. The library bill drawn up by the legislative committee, and presented to the legislature last spring, failed to reach a vote in the House. The presence in Columbus of the legislature, specially called to consider the new code bill, added interest to the meeting, as the provisions of the bill affect almost every public library in the state. At the first sessions of the conference the legislative committee presented a partial report, bringing before the association for its indorsement a bill prepared as an amendment to the so-called Harrison bill, and designed to meet the needs of township libraries directly controlled by boards of education.

This bill was unanimously indorsed by the association, and the committee instructed to lay it before the proper committee of the legislature. Work was promptly begun by the committee, and the bill became a law a few days after the close of the conference. Great credit is due Messrs. Porter and Brett, of the committee on legislation, and President Wicoff, for the intelligent zeal they have displayed in the legislative work of the past year. It is due to no fault of theirs that library conditions in Ohio were not greatly improved. Within the past month the objectionable clauses in the new code bill, which would have affected all present library laws, have been stricken out and the old library laws will stand.

The conference opened on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock. Governor Nash was present and made a very happy address of welcome, to which Mr. A. S. Root responded for the association. The reports of the offi-

cers and of committees were then received, followed by the partial report of the committee on legislation, previously mentioned. The very full discussion of this report consumed the remainder of the time of this session. In the afternoon the members went out to the state university, where they were met at the entrance by guides, and shown about the grounds and buildings, convening in Townshend Hall at 2.30 o'clock for the afternoon session. After a few hearty words of greeting from President Thompson, the regular program was taken up. The first subject was "Bookbuying," and it was treated in an interesting way from the standpoint of the college library and of the large public library, by Miss Gertrude S. Kellicott and Mr. W. H. Brett respectively. Miss Gertrude A. Baker was to have spoken on this question from the standpoint of the small public library, but she was unable to be present. The subject was then put before the house for informal discussion, and a helpful interchange of ideas resulted. Following this Mr. E. O. Randall and Miss Ellen Summers Wilson, speaking as trustee and librarian respectively, gave interesting and suggestive addresses on "The respective functions of trustees and librarians." The afternoon session closed with a discussion of these addresses.

A large audience was present at the open meeting in the evening, and listened to instructive and inspiring addresses by President Wicoff and Dr. W. J. Conklin. Mr. Wicoff discussed, in an able and suggestive paper, the place of the public library in the community. Dr. Conklin's address on "The union of library and museum" was unusually instructive and inspiring. The speaker, for many years a trustee of the Dayton Public Library, gave an interesting account of the growth of the museum in connection with that library, and made a most convincing plea for the museum as a necessary part of every public library. It is hoped that this address may be published in full, and that it will be read by everyone who is interested in the many-sided development of the library. Following the program was a reception in the parlors of the hotel, arranged by the Columbus librarians and their friends. It was a very pleasant function, and most of the guests remained until a late hour.

With the exception of a few minutes given to business, Thursday morning was devoted to the meetings of the Small Library Section and the College Section. The meetings are quite informal, and always interesting.

At 2 o'clock the members boarded special cars and took a trolley ride about the city, visiting the capitol, the institution for the deaf and dumb, and the public libraries, spending a most enjoyable and profitable afternoon.

At the evening session the complete report of the committee on legislation was received

and discussed, and following this report there was an adjourned meeting of the Small Library Section. Friday morning witnessed the final session. Unfinished business being disposed of, the committee on nominations reported as follows:

President, W. T. Porter; 1st vice-president, C. B. Galbreath; 2d vice-president, E. O. Randall; 3d vice-president, Miss Mary Lowe; secretary, Miss Gertrude S. Kellicott; treasurer, Miss Grace Prince. The report was adopted without discussion. Miss Ahern then conducted the "question box" in her usual happy manner, and, following this, the report of the committee on resolutions was presented. The committee extended the thanks of the association to Governor Nash, and to the Columbus librarians and their assistants who had done so much to make the conference a pleasant one.

EDWARD C. WILLIAMS, *Secretary*.

### Library Clubs.

#### BAY PATH LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss M. Anna Tarbell, Brimfield, Mass.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary D. Thurston, Public Library, Leicester, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Eliza Hobbs, Brookfield, Mass.

The Bay Path Library Club held its fall meeting in the assembly room of the grammar school building in Palmer, Mass., Oct. 28. The attendance was small, owing to unfavorable weather, but the program was one of unusual interest, and those present felt well repaid for the effort made in attending.

The morning session opened with a few words of welcome by Mr. Harold M. Dean, superintendent of the Palmer schools and librarian of the public library, to which Miss M. Anna Tarbell, president of the club, responded. The first address was by Mr. Hiller C. Wellman, of the City Library, Springfield, on the Magnolia and Lake Placid meetings.

The subject of "Branch libraries and delivery stations" was taken up by Miss Dorcas Tracey, of the Forbes Library, Northampton, who read an interesting paper on the work done in the districts around that city. The first strictly branch work was started at Bay State, when 50 books were taken out one evening to a store, the use of which had been offered for the purpose. The people had expressed no desire for books, but received them gratefully, and liked a good class of literature. From seven books given out on the first night the circulation has increased to 180, and the branch has now moved into one of the mill offices.

Miss Medlicott, of the City Library, Springfield, read a paper from Mrs. E. N. Lane, of the circulating department, in which she

spoke of the help given through the branches of that library, which include a street railway station and reading rooms in twelve engine houses. Mrs. Lane thinks that even the small libraries should reach their outlying districts, where books can be left at some house or store. Everywhere it is the means rather than the opportunity for extension that is lacking.

Mr. Fletcher, of the Amherst College Library, was the next speaker. He said that we should remember that the library is here to be read, not to be taken care of, and we should secure its reading by the many. He suggested that a census be taken to ascertain the number of families in a town, the number using the library, and those who might be induced to use it. A general discussion followed, the keynote of which seemed to be liberality in the matter of fines in the branch libraries.

After dinner at the Converse House, the second session opened at 2.30 o'clock by a paper on "Pictures in the library," by Miss Mary E. Lane, librarian at Barre. She spoke of the collections they had received from the Library Art Club, of their value educationally and as a means of advertising the library. In Barre the experiment was tried of giving a tea at the library while a set of pictures of Paris were on exhibition. All the townspeople were invited, and a number of people who had recently been in Paris were asked to be present and talk informally about the places of interest. The ladies of the board served at the tea table, the librarian kept open house all day, and the affair was a pronounced success.

Miss Alice G. Chandler then told, by request, how the Library Art Club started with her purchase in Washington of a set of pictures of the Congressional Library. These were first hung in the Lancaster Library, then loaned to a few others, and were so much enjoyed and appreciated that the club was formed which now owns between three and four thousand pictures and numbers over a hundred libraries in its membership. Miss Chandler also spoke of the Woman's Education Association, which circulates 22 collections among the smaller libraries.

The next topic was "The public library as a part of the educational system," and Mr. O. H. Adams, superintendent of the Warren and Wales schools, was the first speaker. He said in part that in his experience pupils read much or little as the teacher reads much or little. Many teachers did not form the reading habit when young and have not acquired it since. The problem then is how to induce the teachers to form the reading habit. He said further that the ideal library would be one with means so unlimited and policy so broad that it could send out branches in every direction and furnish whatever books were needed in whatever quantity needed by any school, neighborhood or section.

Mr. F. W. Cross, principal of the Palmer High School, was the next speaker. He finds difficulty in the fact that pupils have to read certain things in connection with their school work and will not do much outside.

Other speakers were Mr. Wheeler, superintendent of the Monson and Brimfield schools; the Rev. F. B. Harrison and Dr. O. P. Allen, of Palmer, and Mr. W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst. MARY D. THURSTON, *Secretary*.

#### CAPE COD LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet, Mass.  
*Secretary:* Miss Martha N. Soule, Hyannis, Mass.

*Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth C. Nye, Barnstable, Mass.

On Tuesday, Oct. 7, the Cape Cod Library Club held its fourth meeting at Yarmouthport. The members of the club were the guests of Mrs. George Russell Agassiz at luncheon at Sandy Side. Immediately after lunch the president, Mr. Charles F. Swift, in opening the meeting, spoke of a book which a member of the club has written and which is a welcome addition to the literature pertaining to local history. This is the "Memorial of Brevet Major General Joseph E. Hamblin," prepared and issued for private circulation by his sister, Miss Deborah Hamblin, and through the kindness of the author, copies were presented to a number of libraries represented in the club. The report of the treasurer showed that the finances of the club are in a very satisfactory condition.

The nominating committee, consisting of Mr. F. C. Small, Mrs. Harlow and Miss Bradford, reported the following list of officers for the coming year: President, Everett I. Nye, Wellfleet; first vice-president, H. A. Harding, Chatham; second vice-president, Miss Sarah A. Haskell, Rochester; secretary, Miss Martha N. Soule, Hyannis; treasurer, Miss Elizabeth C. Nye, Barnstable. Executive committee, Mrs. G. R. Agassiz, A. S. Bowerman, Mrs. L. A. Ryder, Miss Mary C. Defriez, Judge F. C. Swift, Miss Laura M. Barse. These officers were elected by a unanimous vote.

Wm. L. R. Gifford, of the Cambridge Public Library, spoke of the next meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club, and it was hoped that a large delegation from the Cape Cod Club might attend, as the state club seldom holds a meeting in this vicinity.

F. W. Kingman, trustee of the library at Hyannis, invited the club to hold its next meeting at the Hyannis State Normal School next spring.

Miss Nye, of the Sturges Library, Barnstable, who was chosen a delegate to the conference of the A. L. A. at Magnolia, June 14-20, read a report upon that meeting, and Miss Ida F. Farrar, of the City Library, Springfield, read an account of the work of library institutes in the western part of Massachusetts.

The club was fortunate in having as its guest Miss James, librarian of the Library Bureau in Boston. Her talk was on "How to make bricks without straw" and was full of practical hints upon how the little village library may meet some of its problems; how to make the most of everything—not to despise trifles. One of her suggestions was that there should be a Library Exchange where questions could be asked and answered and where library problems could receive the attention of experts in the various lines of work.

The club has now about 110 members, about 70 being present at the meeting.

MARTHA N. SOULE, *Secretary*.

#### CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Irene Warren, Chicago Institute Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Renée Stern, 6037 Monroe avenue.

*Treasurer:* C. A. Torrey, of Chicago University.

The 10th annual meeting of the club was held at the Chicago Public Library, May 8. Officers for 1902-03 were unanimously elected as follows: President, Irene Warren; vice-presidents, Earl G. Swem and Mary E. Hawley; secretary, Chesley R. Perry; treasurer, Clarence A. Torrey. President Josephson presented a report of the work of the club during the past year. The secretary's report showed a net gain in membership of 25, there now being 102 members. The treasurer's report showed receipts and expenditures of over \$700, the publication of the union list swelling the amount, with a balance on hand of \$46.11.

Mr. Perry and Miss Ahern opened the discussion pro and con on the proposition that the club undertake the preparation, publication and distribution of special reading lists. Mr. Perry took the position that the club ought to be doing something, that this was something that it could do; that special reading lists would be most useful in Chicago, that the failure of the Chicago libraries to issue such lists was the club's opportunity. Miss Ahern replied that the club ought not to undertake to do work that the Chicago libraries should be doing, that the members of the club are overworked as it is, and that this new work would probably devolve upon a handful of the hardest worked ones; that what the club needs is not more technical work, but more professional spirit, higher ideals of the work that belongs to it already, more relaxation, more sociability and fellowship.

A discussion followed and culminated in a motion that the club undertake the preparation and publication of special reading lists. This was lost. It was then moved and seconded that the club purchase from the New York Library Association, or elsewhere, special reading lists and distribute them. At this

point a motion to lay the whole subject on the table prevailed, and the club adjourned until October.

A regular meeting of the club was held Oct. 8 in the Fine Arts building, the president, Miss Warren, in the chair. Mr. E. G. Swem's resignation from the club was read and accepted, as was Mr. C. R. Perry's resignation of the office of secretary. Mr. Hopkins reported that the committee on statistics expected to begin active work in December co-operating with the University of Illinois. It was voted that an invitation be extended to Mr. Dewey to address the club upon the occasion of his proposed visit to the west. The executive committee reported informally that owing to the closing of the Public Library in the evenings the club was without a meeting place, and that it had been suggested that meetings be held in the afternoon. It was voted to leave the matter in the hands of the executive committee. Miss Warren announced that the program for this year would consist largely of addresses by specialists on topics of interest to all librarians. Miss Mary E. Hawley was chosen as first vice-president to succeed Mr. Swem, W. Stetson Merrill was elected second vice-president to succeed Miss Hawley, and Miss Renée B. Stern was elected as secretary to succeed Mr. Perry. Mr. Charles Wilkes, a sanitary engineer of Chicago, then addressed the club on "The sanitary construction, heating and ventilation of library buildings." After Mr. Wilkes had finished his paper he kindly submitted to a severe cross-examination by members of the club upon the topics presented by him.

CHESLEY R. PERRY, *Secretary*.

#### LONG ISLAND LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Frank P. Hill, Brooklyn Public Library.

*Secretary:* Miss Irene Hackett, Brooklyn Y. M. C. A. Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Mabel Farr, Adelphi College Library.

The 14th regular meeting of the Long Island Library Club was held at the Pratt Institute Free Library at three o'clock on Thursday, Oct. 16, with an attendance of over 100 members, Mr. Frank P. Hill presiding. The minutes of the May meeting were accepted as published in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, and twelve new members were elected.

A report was read by Miss Mary W. Plummer, chairman of the committee on library institutes, upon the institute held at College Point, Long Island, on Saturday, Oct. 11. The librarians of the western end of Long Island, exclusive of Brooklyn and Long Island City, were invited by letter, having been previously interested in the meeting by a visit from some member of the committee, or if this was impracticable, by a personal letter. An exhibit of suitable library literature, supplies, and bulletins was arranged, and those



in attendance grew acquainted while examining and discussing these before the meeting. Of the 23 persons present, 11 represented suburban or town libraries. The meeting was opened by a few remarks by Miss Plummer as chairman, followed by Mr. William Harper, librarian of the Poppenhusen Institute where the meeting as held. Mr. Harper told of his experience at the Albany summer school. "Selection of books for a small library" was treated by Miss Hinsdale, from her experience with the former Flushing Free Library. Miss Hutchinson, who was at one time acting librarian of the Blackstone Memorial Library at Branford, Ct., explained "What happens to a book in a well-regulated library." Two hours were allowed for the luncheon, and each one was seated next to a new acquaintance, and requested after the meal to rise and give his name and that of the library he represented. The afternoon session was fully occupied in the discussion of the questions found in the question-box, which was conducted by Miss Frances B. Hawley, of the Brooklyn Public Library, and Miss Josephine A. Rathbone, of the Pratt Institute Free Library. Miss Plummer concluded, "On the whole the committee feels encouraged, realizing that the coming into personal acquaintance with one another is, after all, the important thing among librarians, since it may, and generally does, lead to professional discussion, incitation, emulation, and progress." Mr. Hill called attention to the fact that 50 per cent. of the librarians invited were present, which, as the day was very stormy, he considered a more than satisfactory representation, and cause for congratulation. It was voted that the committee be continued.

The treasurer's report, showing a balance of over \$56, was read and approved, and the committee were authorized to pay all bills incurred for the institute.

The first subject on the program of the meeting was "A librarian's personal reading," on which Miss Plummer read an interesting paper. She touched upon the subject of her own reading, of which she had kept an author-and-title list for some years, then recommended that every librarian keep a list of books she wished to read, from which to choose when the leisure offered, instead of going to the nearest shelf and so "letting the book choose itself." She advocated reading something stimulating rather than following the line of least resistance when the brain is tired, as being really more restful if not so soporific; turning to the old authors, even when read before; and owning good editions of standard books to take up at home instead of carrying a book from the library.

The discussion which followed was varied and animated, being led by Miss Anthony of the Packer Collegiate Institute, who said we were apt to forget that "the King's taster might have a private trencher of his own," and that we should read along the lines, if not of "least resistance," yet of our

best liking. Miss Jacobson, librarian-in-charge of the City Park Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, spoke of the influence upon the young assistant of being surrounded by a well-selected collection of books, and associated with a librarian of good taste. She spoke of a club of assistants for reading and discussing book reviews. Miss Hutchinson, of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, told of another club which was pledged to read non-fiction for half an hour a day in order to overcome the tendency to superficiality by a little systematic solid reading. Miss Rathbone spoke of a policy of exclusion with regard to the novels of the day, whereupon Mr. Hill suggested that of reading no novel until it was six months old. Mr. Bishop, of the Polytechnic Institute, advocated having a hobby around which one's reading should center. Miss Haines urged that we increase the amount of our reading, which led to a protest from Miss Davis, of the Pratt Institute Library, as to the limitations of time and strength, and the query from Miss Hawley, of the Brooklyn Public Library—"When do the people who read incessantly get time to think?" Miss Rathbone suggested the atmosphere of the early novels, such as Jane Austen's as a restful change from the hurry of the day; and Mr. Bostwick closed the discussion with a word of personal and professional experience.

"How do librarians select books?" was the other topic of the afternoon, being a symposium by Miss Mary L. Davis, head of the cataloging department of the Pratt Institute Free Library; Mr. Arthur E. Bostwick, chief of the Circulating Department of the New York Public Library; Mr. Benjamin Adams, librarian of the Prospect Branch of the Brooklyn Public Library; and Miss Louise G. Hinsdale, librarian of the Flushing Branch of the Queens Borough Library.

Miss Davis called attention to the wide field of purchase of the Pratt Institute Library because of its relation to the institute as well as to the general public, making it necessary to buy many technical and reference works beside general literature, especial attention also being paid to the needs of the children, and their parents and teachers. She mentioned the best critical reviews in English, French, German, and Italian as sources of information concerning the new books, with publishers' lists, trade bulletins, and auction catalogs to aid in ordering. The librarian makes her selection from these reviews, and from recommendations by the instructors of the departments of the Pratt Institute, encouraging suggestions also from the readers, and submitting very expensive, especially if technical, works to specialists for an expert opinion of their value. Few subscription books are bought, and these only from well-known publishers. The forms observed in the order department of collating, approving, and filing order-slips were outlined.

Mr. Bostwick said that he spoke for three

boroughs—Manhattan, Richmond and the Bronx—but that he had nothing to do with the ordering of reference books. The order list is made up weekly, and suggestions are welcomed from the readers, or made by the librarians in charge of the branches, or by the chief of the department himself when he sees that a branch is weak in a particular subject. As reviews are frequently found unreliable, a doubtful book is often submitted to two or three chosen members of the staff for approval. The weekly list is collated for prices, duplicates, etc., and then compared with the duplicates on hand, as books are sometimes supplied from this source. It is then sent for approval to a committee before the books are finally ordered. No hard-and-fast rule of selection is possible as each book must stand upon its own merits.

Mr. Adams and Miss Hinsdale confined their remarks to the principles of selection in branch and small libraries, with the modifications suitable to each. Miss Plummer summed up the matter by saying that no rules could be given, experience forming in time a composite impression which served as a guide. Miss Haines suggested that this impression had for its background the knowledge dependent upon the extent of one's personal reading. The discussion terminated in the statement that both sides of a disputed subject should be represented in a library, and where opinions clashed the books should be let to fight it out; and finally, that the selection should represent the needs of the library and not the librarian's personal choice.

IRENE A. HACKETT, *Secretary*.

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Frank B. Bigelow, New York Society Library.

*Secretary:* Silas H. Berry, Y. M. C. A. Library, 317 W. 56th street.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, Brooklyn Public Library.

A regular meeting of the New York Library Club was held at the general library of the Young Men's Christian Association, 317 West 56th street, Thursday, Oct. 9, at 3 p.m. The minutes as printed in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* were approved. Mr. A. A. Clarke, of the Y. M. C. A. Library, and Mr. Charles E. Booth were elected to membership.

The committee on handbook reported that receipts from sales to date had been \$128.44 and the expense of distribution and collection had been \$11.75. Mr. Nelson, for the committee, called attention to the fact that as printing, binding and distribution of the handbook had cost to date \$550 and as the club had been able to pay but \$250 on account it was important that all arrears in dues be made up and that the sale of the handbook be promoted in every way possible.

The afternoon's program opened with reports upon the library meetings of the sum-

mer. Miss Helen Haines told briefly about the Post conference trip to Bar Harbor, which followed the American Library Association conference at Magnolia in June; and the "Library week" meeting at Lake Placid was described by Miss Elizabeth G. Baldwin, of Teachers' College, in a breezy outdoors paper on the social side of the meeting, and by Mr. Robert G. Welsh, who reviewed the business transacted and subjects discussed at the sessions.

Dr. Andrew F. Currier, president of the board of trustees of the Mount Vernon Public Library, gave an address on "The sterilization of books by vapor of formalin" (see *L. J.*, Oct., p. 881), which he illustrated with a miniature sterilizing plant. He stated that book disinfection is a part of the subject of preventive medicine which is the most important branch of scientific investigation and human knowledge. His paper caused some discussion. Mr. Frank Weitenkampf told how the sterilizing process was carried on at the New York Public Library and mentioned that the only disease known to have been transmitted by the use of library books was scarlet fever. He said that many libraries destroy all books that are known to have been exposed to smallpox and other infectious diseases, not only as a measure of safety but to allay the fears of the public. Miss Frances Thomson, librarian of the Mount Vernon Public Library, explained in answer to questions, how Dr. Currier's sterilizing plant was operated at that library, it being used only for such books as there was possible doubt about. About 200 books a day were sent to the sterilizer, at a cost of about \$40 per year.

Reports on this subject were made from the Plainfield Public Library, the Bridgeport Public Library, Pratt Institute Library, and others, showing that it was the general practice for libraries to co-operate with the local board of health, and on being informed of infectious diseases to refuse to circulate books which had been exposed to infection.

Before adjournment the committee on library institutes asked for information as to the term for which it was appointed, and on motion of Mr. Cole the committee was continued until next meeting.

SILAS H. BERRY, *Secretary*.

#### WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Frank G. Willcox, Public Library, Holyoke.

*Secretary:* Miss May Ashley, Public Library, Greenfield.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. A. J. Hawks, Meekins Memorial Library, Williamsburgh.

The fall meeting of the club was held Oct. 9, at Holyoke, and brought together an attendance of about 80. The morning session was in the lecture-room of the Holyoke Public Library, and the afternoon meeting in the assembly-room of the summit house on

Mt. Tom. W. S. Loomis, of the board of directors opened the morning session with a few words of welcome. He contradicted the assertion that corporations have no souls with a report of what one Holyoke corporation has done to help build the public library. The principal topic for the morning was "The best books of the year for a small library to buy." The discussion was opened by Miss Medlicott, of Springfield, who emphasized the difficulty of choosing from book reviews, and of selecting by title from publishers' catalogs. Other speakers were W. I. Fletcher, C. A. Cutter, Mr. Greenough, and Mr. Willcox. Mr. Wellman in closing the discussion, emphasized the purchase of books that contain information, rather than supplying books on topics that are fads and which contain no contributions to knowledge.

"Means of attracting people to the library" was the subject of a paper by Miss Mabel E. Emerson, of the Providence Public Library. She said that it is through philanthropic associations that the library hopes to reach that large proportion of children who leave school even before they reach the ninth grade. Probably more can be done through the schools than in any other way. Interest the children as early as possible. In work with older people, the various reading circles, study clubs, lecture courses, etc., claim attention. Debating societies bring constantly new recruits and lists of books may be posted in shops and mills. Lastly, to make your work a success, choose carefully the assistants who come directly in contact with the people. They should be sympathetic and tactful, and yet have sufficient personal dignity to command respect.

A report of other club meetings was given by Hiller C. Wellman, who described the Magnolia conference and the Lake Placid meeting of the New York Library Association.

The afternoon session opened with business. There was a brief report by the secretary of the institute held in Granville. Mention was made of two more institutes to come, one in Miller's Falls, Nov. 7, the other in Haydenville, Nov. 14. Miss Farrar reported upon the recent meeting of the Cape Cod Library Club, which, too, is pushing the work by means of the library institute.

The first topic was "The rules which are really essential in the dealings of the library with the public," by C. A. Cutter, of the Forbes Library, of Northampton. This was followed by papers on "The treatment of pamphlets," read by Miss Farrar and Miss Tracy. Among the suggestions were: Bind pamphlets of permanent value, group by classes in boxes of uniform size made of strawboard and costing about five cents. Place in boxes 18 inches long by seven wide and 10 deep, arrange one behind another like cards on end in a drawer, reading from left to right. After a short discussion the meeting was adjourned.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

### DREXEL INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

Charles E. Janvrin, class of '02, has been appointed librarian of the Jefferson Medical College, Philadelphia.

Miss Ada F. Liveright, class of '96, has been appointed cataloger in the Library of the College of Physicians, Philadelphia.

Miss Kathrine McAlarney, class of '02, has accepted a position in the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Miss Hetty S. Johnston, class of '90, has been engaged as an assistant in the Drexel Institute Library.

Miss Alvaretta P. Abbott, class of '99, is organizing the Union Library of Hatboro, Pa.

Miss Miriam B. Wharton, class of '02, is organizing the Public Library of McVeytown, Pa.

The annual meeting of the Drexel Institute Library School Association was held Oct. 29, after which a reception was tendered the incoming class.

### IOWA SUMMER SCHOOL.

A report of the 1902 session (June 16-July 26) of the summer school for library training conducted by the Iowa Library Commission, at the State University, is given in the October number of the commission *Bulletin*. There were 26 students enrolled for the six weeks' course, and in addition 16 students entered for the special two weeks' course in library work with children given by Miss Annie Carroll Moore, head of the children's department of the Pratt Institute Free Library of Brooklyn.

"The school," it is said, "is no longer an experiment. It has been given a cordial reception by the university authorities and was provided this year with admirable rooms for lectures and practice work in the handsome new hall of liberal arts. The attendance is all that can be desired, if a high standard of work is to be maintained. The school exists primarily to raise the standard of library work in Iowa and the attendance from the state indicates that it is appreciated."

### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

#### CALENDAR, 17TH SCHOOL YEAR, 1902-3.

School opens Wednesday, a.m., October 1.  
Election Day, holiday, Tuesday, November 4.

Thanksgiving recess begins Wednesday noon, November 26.

Thanksgiving recess ends Monday noon, December 1.

Lectures begin Monday p.m., December 1.  
Christmas recess begins Wednesday a.m., December 24.

Christmas recess ends Monday p.m., January 5, 1903.

Lectures begin Tuesday a.m., January 6.  
Lincoln's Birthday, holiday, Thursday, February 12.

Washington's Birthday, holiday, Monday, February 23.

Visit to New York, Philadelphia, Washington and Baltimore libraries, Tuesday evening April 7-Monday, April 20.

Lectures begin Tuesday a.m., April 21.

Decoration Day, holiday, Saturday, May 30.

Summer course begins Wednesday a.m., May 20.

School closes Friday p.m., June 26.

Summer course closes Tuesday p.m., June 30.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

The students have been interested in watching the Carnegie library campaign, which culminated on election day, Nov. 4. The following question was submitted to the people on a separate ballot: Shall the city of Albany accept the offer of Mr. Andrew Carnegie of \$150,000 for public library purposes? The offer was rejected by a majority of 5056. There were 7152 votes for and 12,208 votes against the proposition, 23,334 being the total city vote cast for Governor. Only four out of 19 wards gave a majority for the library.

The new senior class is taking up energetically the weekly library letter in the Albany *Argus*, which was begun by the class of 1902.

The junior class has elected as its officers for the coming year Mr. Harold L. Leupp, of New York City, for president, and Miss Beatrice J. Barker, of Providence, R. I., for secretary-treasurer.

The officers of the senior class were re-elected. Mr. Malcolm G. Wyer, of Excelsior, Minn., president; Miss Ella R. Seligsberg, New York City, secretary-treasurer.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

#### PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The library school has admitted a special student to the general course this year, Mr. Henry Forster Marx, of Easton, Pa., who is under appointment as librarian of the new Carnegie Library, soon to be built at Easton.

In the list of accepted applicants for the class of 1903 (printed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for August), the name of Mr. George M. Churchill, Elmwood, Mass., was given. Mr. Churchill was obliged to withdraw before the opening of the school, and the vacancy has been filled by Miss Helen M. Clarke, of New York.

Miss Edith E. Hunt, class of '95, has been appointed as cataloger in the Brooklyn Public Library.

#### APPOINTMENTS.

Of the class of 1902, the following appointments have been made:

Lillian Burt, cataloger, Marietta College, Marietta, Ohio.

Agnes Cowing, circulating department, Pratt Institute Free Library.

Adelaide F. Evans, cataloger, Pratt Institute Free Library.

Jane E. Gardner, librarian, People's Library, Newport, R. I.

Edith A. Gillespie, assistant, Hampton Institute Library, Hampton, Va.

Ruth S. Granniss, assistant, open shelf department, Pratt Institute Free Library.

Louise Merrill, cataloger, Library of New York Bar Association.

Antoinette P. Metcalf, assistant in reference department, Pratt Institute Free Library.

Hermann H. B. Meyer, New York Public Library.

Frances N. Northrop, assistant, circulating department, Carnegie Library, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Lillian M. Pospishil, assistant, Public Library, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Cornelia B. Ward, assistant, Public Library, Montclair, N. J.

Hester Young, indexer and secretary, Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va.

#### GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION OF PRATT INSTITUTE FREE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

The annual reception given by the Graduates' Association to the library class was held Thursday evening, Nov. 6, in the library class rooms, which were prettily transformed for the occasion. There were about 70 present, all of whom were subjected to a test of their five senses. Those who were found deficient in taste or smell showed no less relish of coffee and other refreshment than if they had been able to distinguish gasoline from kerosene; and if some of the guests could not name an L.B. book-support or a shelf-list card at sight, they proved the more interesting companions to those to whom such objects were all too familiar. The reunion was a very cordial home-gathering of graduates and students, welcomed by Miss Plummer, and Miss Hutchinson, president of the Graduates' Association. I. A. H.

#### SIMMONS COLLEGE LIBRARY TRAINING COURSE.

Simmons College, which opened Oct. 9, at Boston, Mass., is the first institution in New England to give to women both collegiate and technical training at the same time. Library science is one of the regular four-year courses of the college. The purpose is to cover essentially the same ground as the older accredited training schools. This present year freshman work only is offered.

The students in the department are:

Allchin, Florence Stratton, Auburndale, graduate Newton High school.

Bonney, Bessie Avis, Stoneham, graduate Stoneham High school.

Bradley, Lucy Watson, West Newburyport, graduate West Newburyport High school.

Bragg, Laura May, Bristol, N. H., Amesbury, Mass., High school, 1896-'99; Lisbon, N. H., High school, 1899-1900.

Comer, Anne Sanford, Winthrop, graduate Winthrop High school, Boston Normal School of Gymnastics, 1901-'02.

Daggett, Mary Augusta, Cambridge, Wellesley College, 1891-'93; Wilson College, 1901-'02.

Dunmore, Jennie Elizabeth, Haverhill, graduate Haverhill High school.

Farrell, Winfred Sampson, Bedford, graduate Concord, Mass., high school.  
 Finley, Florence Gertrude, Haverhill, graduate Haverhill High school.  
 Harkins, Gertrude Marie, Brookline, graduate Emerson College of Oratory.  
 Harwood, Maude Davis, Ware, graduate Ware High school.  
 Higgins, Alice Gertrude, Quincy, graduate and post-graduate Quincy High school.  
 Hubbard, Minerva, Pasadena, Cal., Capen school, Northampton, Mass., 1892-95.  
 Jones, Elizabeth Belle, Concord Junction, Mass., Belfast, Me., High school, 1892-95; Bridgewater Normal school, 1895-97.  
 Luard, Lucy Dalbiac, Wollaston, graduate Quincy High school.  
 Magrath, Ethel, Cambridge, Mass., private schools.  
 Metcalf, Elsie Raymond, Franklin, Mt. Holyoke College, 1901-02.  
 Mitchell, Grace Mary, Akron, O., B.A., Puchtel College, 1900.  
 Nelson, Dorothea, Marshfield Hills, Mrs. Piatt's school, Utica, N. Y.  
 Norris, Helen, Brighton, graduate Boston Girls Latin school.  
 Parker, Harriet Gardner, Everett, graduate Drury Academy, North Adams.  
 Pollister, Alma Hodsdon, Portland, Me., graduate and post-graduate Portland High school.  
 Rathbun, Mary Elizabeth, Boston, Smith college, 1893.  
 Richards, Eleanor Mayhew, Brookline, Brookline High school, 1900-01.  
 Sander, Elfriede M., Jamaica Plains, private school, Dresden, Germany.  
 Smart, Mary Farrington, Lafayette, Ind., Purdue university, 1898-1900.  
 Walley, Theresa Bates, Boston, graduate Girls High school.  
 Winn, Edna Florence, Fall River, graduate Durfee High school.

MARY E. ROBBINS, *Instructor*.

## Reviews.

LUNDSTEDT, Bernhard. Sveriges periodiska litteratur. Bibliografi enligt Publicistklubbens uppdrag utarbetad af Bernhard Lundstedt. III.: Landsorten 1813-99, med supplement [etc.]. Stockholm, Aktiebolaget H. Klemmings Antiquariat, 1902. [1], 658 p. 24 x 16cm. 12.50 kr.; complete in 3 vol.; 1895-1902, 25 kr.

With this volume Dr. Lundstedt's bibliography of the periodical literature of Sweden is completed. It catalogs 3208 different publications, covering the years 1645-1899. The first volume deals with the periodicals of the whole kingdom from 1645 to 1812, aggregating 425 publications; the second with those published in Stockholm from 1813 to 1894, 1045 publications, and the third with those

published outside of Stockholm from 1813 to 1899, 1560 publications, besides giving 178 new periodicals published in Stockholm from 1895 to 1899, and 130 supplementary notices to titles in the first two volumes.

The bibliographical notes are very complete; full titles and all changes in titles are given, the year, the month and date of first issue, as well as of the last, if discontinued. If still in existence the words "fortgår [-continues] 1900" are added, and here the criticism may be made that "living" periodicals should be more clearly distinguished from "dead" ones. It requires some little effort to tell what periodicals are still in existence. The frequency of publication is given, and the days of publication of those issued on certain weekdays; further, the folding symbols, number of columns to the page and the size of the letterpress in centimeters. Publishers, *i.e.*, the persons who, at various times, have registered the periodicals with the copyright authorities, editors, and chief contributors are also given.

The titles are arranged in the first two volumes chronologically by the year of first issue, in the third volume alphabetically by the place of publication, and thereafter chronologically. The first volume has a topographical index to the periodicals published outside of Stockholm. Each volume has an alphabetical index of titles, and the third volume has an index of names of persons mentioned in all three volumes, an index of pseudonyms and initials, and a classified list, arranged by the Decimal classification. The second and third volumes mention 212 periodicals, registered with the copyright authorities between 1813 and 1899 but either not published, or not seen by the author who has used exclusively the collections in the Royal Library at Stockholm. Only of 42 of these does the author know they were never published. Of the remainder 88 were registered to be published in Stockholm, and it is reasonable to think that the majority, if not all, of these were really never published. There remain, however, 82 periodicals, published outside of Stockholm, of which it is possible that about one-half really were published, but never deposited in the Royal Library as required by law. It must be presumed, although the author does not say so, that inquiries have been made at the two other copyright depositories, the university libraries of Upsala and Lund, about the publications not found in Stockholm; but probably the publications not deposited at Stockholm were not sent to either of the other depositories; nor have the authorities of these institutions made such efforts to collect all Swedish imprints, as did the late chief librarian at Stockholm, Dr. G. E. Klemming.

It is really a remarkable fact, that of the whole of Sweden's periodical publications of which titles are known, all but about five per cent. are to be found in its national library.

ASKEL G. S. JOSEPHSON.



## Library Economy and History.

### GENERAL.

ABBOTT, Allan. Reading tastes of high-school pupils: a statistical study. (*In School Review*, October, 10:585-600.)

A very interesting study of the reading tastes of nearly 2500 boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 19. The study was made on the list of books, 178 in all, published in a pamphlet by Harvard in 1897, and entitled "English in the secondary schools," and that given in the report of the subcommittee on English to the National Educational Association Committee on College Entrance Requirements. The negative results of this investigation are that the interest of high school boys and girls "is always in contents rather than in style; in the direct story, rather than in one to any degree satiric or symbolic. They do not care for the attempt of one man to interpret the ideals of another, for literary criticism, nor for experiments in rhetorical art." On the positive side the tables show that "Boys and girls both like: Dickens, Hope, Longfellow, Scott, Sienkiewicz, Westcott. Boys, alone, like: Blackmore, Cooper (Mohicans), Churchill, Dumas, Ford, Henty, Hughes, Kipling, Stevenson. Girls, alone, like: Alcott, Barrie, Brontë, Bulwer, Lamb, Shakespeare, Stowe, Tennyson."

The *Bulletin of the Association of Medical Librarians* (Quarterly) for July-October, 1902 (vol. 1, no. 3-4, double numbers), is of unusual interest to librarians generally. Dr. William Osler's presidential address at the meeting of the Association of Medical Librarians, Saratoga June 10, 1902, is the opening paper, its title being "Some aspects of American medical bibliography." He calls attention to a large number of the early medical writers of America, many of whose books are of general interest. Of the use of medical libraries he says: "In the recent history of the profession there is nothing more encouraging than the increase in the number of medical libraries. The organization of a library means effort, it means union, it means progress. It does good to men who start it, who help with money, with time and with the gift of books. It does good to the young men, with whom our hopes rest, and a library gradually and insensibly moulds the profession of a town to a better and higher status." Charles Perry Fisher, the librarian, contributes an historical account of the "Library of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia," the oldest medical library in the United States. It now contains more than 65,000 volumes. Nearly 40 pages of the *Bulletin* are given to the classifications of two most important medical libraries—the library of the College of Physicians, Philadelphia, and the library of the Surgeon-General's Office, Washington.

Good, Jessie M. The travelling library as a civilizing force. (*In Chautauquan*, Oct., 1902, 36:65-78.) il.

The first of a series of articles on "Civic progress." Outlines the travelling library movement from the time of Rev. Thomas Bray to the present.

### LOCAL.

Albany, N. Y. The question of accepting Andrew Carnegie's offer of \$165,000 for a public library building was submitted to popular vote on Nov. 4, and defeated by an overwhelming majority.

Baltimore. Enoch Pratt F. L. More than a year ago the Enoch Pratt Free Library began the experiment of alternating fortnightly some of the cataloging force with the delivery desk attendants, the object being to improve the service by keeping the desk attendant more in touch with the other work of the library. This has proved so satisfactory that beginning with Oct. 1 this year, the system of alternation has been extended to include the custodians of the branch libraries. Some of these custodians have not worked at the central library, where all the catalog work is done, for more than 10 years. By bringing them to the central library for a period of three months it is believed that the service to the public will be still further improved, at the same time stimulating in the custodians a more lively interest in library affairs generally.

Boston (Mass.) P. L. (50th rpt.—year ending Jan. 31, 1902.) Added 35,835, of which 10,092 were accessions to the branches; total 812,264. For the central library 13,741 v. were purchased, for the branches 9437. The sum paid for books, periodicals and newspapers was \$49,232.21, as against \$44,575.20 for the preceding year. Issued, home use, from central lib. 324,527; from branches, stations and other agencies 1,158,966; total recorded, home use, 1,483,513; recorded ref. use in central lib. 379,423. New registration 11,562; cards in use 72,902. Receipts \$328,229.90, of which \$183,525.12 were devoted to salaries and \$97,110.36 to general maintenance.

The record of the year is, as usual, "one of large expansion." The library system now includes 117 agencies, as against 87 last year. "These comprise the central library, 10 branches, 21 delivery stations, 44 schools, 33 engine houses, and 8 city institutions. Not merely have new stations been established, but the hours during which many are kept open have been extended."

Numerous important accessions have been made to the collection, especially in illuminated mss., incunabula, American colonial histories, old Boston newspapers, and old English literature and drama; also books in Polish and modern Hebrew. The more not-

able titles are recorded. In current purchases, 3938 v. of fiction were added, and replacements and duplicates brought the total up to 8041 v., at a cost of \$7808.12, making the fiction expenditure about 28 per cent. of the total city appropriation spent for books. The trustees express their opinion that "most of the books of this character now published have little permanent or even temporary value," and approve of the present practice of diminishing purchases of such books "until their value can be tested by time." The special fiction committee has continued its work of reading and reporting upon current novels. Of 763 books—including children's books—so read, 422 were accepted by the trustees, including 27 unfavorably reported on by the committee, and 335 were rejected, including 107 favorably reported on.

The Bates Hall card catalog has been practically reorganized, a change involving the trimming and punching of some 1,200,000 cards and their readjustment in the 2100 cases of the catalog. "There have been printed, headings written for, and filed the past year 232,321 cards, as against 167,430 in 1900, and 153,500 in 1899. Of these 67,021 were placed in the special libraries. In addition 32,741 have been written and sent to the branches. In 1901, therefore, 265,062 cards were placed in the catalogs, as against 93,000 to years ago. This is an illustration of the development of the library since it was moved to Copley Square."

The considerable increase in registration of borrowers is largely due to lowering the age limit from 12 to 10 years, and to library visits to the public schools, where applications for cards were received in large numbers. Reports are summarized from the various departments. Exhibitions of pictures have been continued in the children's room, and this department has been more largely used than ever before, especially in the branches. Especially interesting is the report of Langdon L. Ward, supervisor of branches and stations. Special effort has been made to make the branches centers of co-operation with the schools: "1, to serve the schools as city institutions; 2, with the assistance of the teachers to cultivate in the pupils the habit of reading at the time in their lives when they are best capable of acquiring it; 3, to make the school children so familiar with the public library that they will be likely to use it on leaving school, when the library may be their only educational opportunity."

*Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L.* Several courses of lectures or instruction in the use of books have been planned for the winter season, if sufficient demand is found to exist. They include: 1, a course of 10 lectures for teachers, on the works of reference in the library useful to teachers and pupils, one lecture to be given each week, at a fee

of \$2.50 for the course; 2, instruction to students in the making of reading lists or bibliographies; 3, talks on the selection of books for children, intended for parents and teachers or for any one upon whom devolves the work of buying or recommending books for children; 4, special advice or reading lists for any persons engaged in any skilled manual labor or handicraft who desire such help. For these various lessons and courses a nominal fee will be charged.

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* On October 6 the trustees received and granted application for a year's leave of absence without pay, made by Mrs. Mary E. Craigie, in charge of the travelling libraries department. At a later meeting, on Oct. 21, a letter was received from Mrs. Craigie withdrawing her application, and the leave of absence granted was rescinded. On October 30, Mrs. Craigie was formally suspended from her connection with the library, on charges of incapacity and insubordination. The charges specify carelessness and inaccuracy in keeping necessary records, cataloging, etc., the giving of unauthorized interviews on library affairs to local newspapers, infraction of rules as to library hours, and lack of discrimination in the selection of books for the travelling library collections. The charges were presented, and a hearing given to Mrs. Craigie, on Oct. 30, by the administration committee of the library board, which will report its findings at the next meeting of the library board.

*Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L.* The fifth volume of the "Publications" of the Buffalo Historical Society contains (p. 361-76) "An historical sketch of the Buffalo Library prior to the free library movement," by J. N. Larned; and "The Buffalo free library movement in the year 1897," by Henry L. Elmendorf (p. 377-84).

*Davenport (Ia.) P. L.* On Oct. 9 the trustees decided that the library should be known hereafter as "The Davenport Public Library on the Andrew Carnegie Foundation."

*Dubuque, Ia. Carnegie-Stout F. L.* The new Carnegie-Stout Public Library was opened to the public for the issue of books Oct. 20. No formal program was observed, but on the 17th the building was given over to the mayor of the city and by him in turn to the library board, after which public receptions were given on Friday and Saturday. The building is of the Roman-Corinthian style of architecture with the front of Bedford stone, and cost \$60,000. The architects were W. G. Williamson, of Chicago, and John Spencer, of Dubuque. About 18,000 volumes were turned over to the library from the Young Men's Library Association.

*Kansas City (Mo.) P. L.* (21st rpt.—year ending June 30 1902; in lib. *Quarterly*, October.) Added 2426; total not given. Issued, home use, 212,411, an increase of 8147 over the previous year; reading room use 61,917. No. borrowers 24,444.

"The most effective work of the library in recent years has been the establishing of sub-stations in outer districts. There are now 12 sub-stations placed in the schools furthest removed from the library. To provide from 200 to 350 books each month to each of these stations taxes the resources of the library to the utmost, more especially the children's department, for from this room the greater number of the books are selected."

During the year free access to the fiction shelves was permitted, and the two-book system was adopted.

*New Haven, Ct. Young Men's Institute L.* The 76th report, as printed in the local press, gives no statistics, but records a successful year's work. "Over a year ago a system of home delivery was inaugurated for the benefit of subscribers. The system, however, is not a great success, and is hardly likely to be a source of much profit. Recently, as contracts have expired, we have limited our subscribers to books that we would purchase in any event, and have advanced the subscription price to cover the expense of delivery. It is certain that the opportunity to read once a week a new or popular book is very attractive to some people, many of whom are too busy to go regularly to the library for the purpose of selection. But we cannot afford to do business at a loss."

*New York P. L. — Astor, Lenox and Tilden foundations.* (Rpt.—year ending June 30, 1902; in lib. *Bulletin* October, p. 388-415.) Added, circulation department, 15,986; total 218,818. Added central ref. lib. 33,741 v. (of which 12,951 were purchases), 128,270 pm.; total "on shelves and available for use" 571,081 v., 206,687 pm. Issued, home use, from circulation dept. 2,014,653; ref. use, Astor and Lenox buildings, 411,883. Visitors to periodical dept., central lib., 23,640.

The two fields of work represented in the library system—the home issue and school use of books through the circulation department, and the development and use of the great reference collections of the Astor and Lenox buildings—are so distinct that they cannot well be summarized together. During the year two more libraries have been merged into the circulation system—the St. Agnes Library, now the St. Agnes branch, and the Washington Heights Free Library, now the Washington Heights branch. The four reading rooms opened in 1901 in public school buildings were closed at the end of that year, owing to lack of funds by which the board of education could continue their support. The total home circulation of 2,014,685 v. was at-

tained through 202 distributing agencies, the travelling libraries alone having circulated 248,791 v. A list of the agencies is appended, which is striking in its revelation of the many points at which the library is brought in contact with educational, social and home life.

"The number of books lost by theft during the year in the circulation department is very large, as is the case in all open shelf libraries. The total number reported missing at the monthly partial inventories during the year at the 14 branches was 3480. This doubtless represents a permanent loss of at least 2000. Thus the annual loss from theft is one per cent. of the total number of volumes on the shelves, and one-tenth of one per cent. of those circulated. Of the total expenditures of the department, about 1.3 per cent. is for replacement of stolen books, and nearly 12 per cent. of the book appropriation is so expended."

The steps taken toward the erection of Carnegie branch buildings are noted; one site (for the Yorkville branch) has been secured and contracts signed for the building; the purchase of two others has been authorized, eight sites have been agreed upon, and to others have been approximately selected.

For the reference library the work of the various departments is reviewed, and statistics of accessions and use are given. In the document department extensive additions were made to the collection of American municipal documents. "Preliminary work on the index to United States documents relating to foreign affairs has been completed, a total number of 45,000 cards having been written to cover the period from 1810 to 1896." From the print department a series of exhibitions were held at the Lenox branch, which were examined by 13,294 visitors. Dr. Billings says: "As stated in my last report, the fund available for purchase of books for the reference department is not more than half the amount required to keep it up to date, and the selection for purchase has continued to be made in accordance with the rules stated in that report. The most urgent demands upon the library are for works in applied science, in political science, and the industrial arts, in American and English history, and for public records and documents, and serials of all kinds, and these demands have been met as far as possible."

*Newport, R. I. Redwood L. and Athenaeum.* (172d rpt.—year ending Aug. 20, 1902.) Added 1236; total 44,835. Issued, home use 15,958. Receipts and expenses, \$13,984.94.

In the spring a new two-story stack—the gift of the late George H. Norman—was installed. This will hold about 25,000 v. and is expected to meet the library's needs for a number of years to come.

The rearrangement of books, and greater freedom of space thus made possible have

proved a great advantage. There is still, however, an unrelieved congestion of books in the fiction room. New regulations have been adopted, restricting the issue of new books to not more than two new books, one non-fiction — although all borrowers are permitted to draw three books at a time, if desired — and refusing admission to the stack-room to the public and to transient visitors.

*Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L.* (7th rpt. — year ending June 30, 1902.) Added 2425; total 11,636. Issued, home use 76,148 (fict. 49,083; juv. fict. 16,756) of which 23,884 were circulated from the branch. New registration 4398. Receipts \$8872.62; expenses \$7945.63.

"Our work for blind readers is perhaps unique for a small library and may be of general interest. In 1898 two blind citizens made a modest request of the librarian for a few books. A 'Friend' hearing of this donated \$20 for the purpose. The gift was highly appreciated and the library supplemented it by a few dollars. We afterwards received a few additional books through the influence of one of our trustees, so that we now have about 50 well-chosen volumes. This has opened a new world to our readers who had read their few home books over and over again. The New York State Library, appreciating the great need throughout the state, has since started a travelling library for the blind, so that each reader in the state is entitled to a book sent carriage free both ways and the book may be exchanged at the end of a month. Ours was the first library to avail itself of this privilege and now our four readers have new books and music at will. With the addition of the two newspapers which we have on file they are well supplied with good reading."

*Pawtucket (R. I.) P. L.* The dedication of the beautiful Deborah Cook Sayles Memorial Building, the gift of Hon. Frederic C. Sayles as a memorial to his wife, was held on the afternoon of Oct. 15. Addresses were delivered by Col. Alonzo E. Pierce, chairman of the library board; Hon. Frederic William Hollis, of New York; Mayor John J. Fitzgerald; and Rev. George Harris, president of Amherst College.

The library building was described and illustrated in the LIBRARY JOURNAL at the time when plans were accepted (L. J., 24:258.) It is a beautiful structure of the Grecian type, and no pains or money have been spared to make its equipment complete in every detail.

*Pittsfield, Mass., Berkshire Athenaeum.* (Rpt., 1902.) Added 3351; total 42,092. Issued, home use 101,503; new registration 951; cards in use 6930. Receipts \$17,553.65; expenses \$16,539.06.

Mr. Ballard says: "One of the most important experiments for the year is the recent inauguration of the Tabard Inn Library system. The Tabard Inn Library is an out-

growth of the Book-lovers' Library, and under the same management. The payment of three dollars makes one a life member of the Tabard Inn Library, branches of which are being installed in all the important towns of the United States. Members draw books upon payment of five cents for each exchange, and are permitted to change them at any Tabard Inn Station which may be most convenient." Arrangement has been made, whereby for a fixed rental, the library receives the Tabard Inn service for a year. "For a yearly rental of \$150 we are provided with a large revolving book-case, now stationed near the delivery desk, and with 125 books per month for one year. This rental includes transportation both ways. At the end of the first month we are to return to Philadelphia the 125 books first received, or as many of them as we may choose, and receive in exchange an equal number for use during the second month, and so on.

"This means that during the year we may secure 1500 of the newest and most popular books of our own selection from a large catalog, for \$150, for 10 cents a volume. We are saved the expense and time of cataloging these books, an expense in itself equal to the amount paid for the entire service; and what is of more consequence, at the end of the service we are relieved of all the books. This frees us from the embarrassment of purchasing books to supply a temporary demand and should save the library about \$400 per year, besides affording a better service to the public. Each of the Tabard Inn books comes already labeled and ready for immediate delivery. The library makes no charge to its patrons for these books, which are placed upon precisely the same footing as our order, except that the time for which they are loaned is limited to one week. Any one, therefore, may draw one of these books from our library, carry it with them to read on the cars or elsewhere, exchange it in Boston or San Francisco, or any other city, for another Tabard Inn book, and return that one to us in place of the one borrowed here, paying five cents for the exchange in other cities. Thus far the experiment has proved successful and popular, and being unable to discover any possible objection to it I recommended the immediate extension of the service to 250 books per month. This should provide a sufficient number of such books as we do not care to acquire as a permanent possession, but which we much need during the period of their popularity."

*St. Louis (Mo.) P. F. L.* The library issues simultaneously, in separate form, its annual reports for the years 1897-8, 1898-9, 1899-1900, 1900-01. Heretofore the annual library report has been included in the mayor's messages and accompanying documents, and afterwards reprinted by the library. The present late appearance and simultaneous issue of

these four reports is due to the fact that for three years the last city administration printed no reports, and these are now published directly by the library board. As the record of the earlier years has been duly noted in these columns, it is necessary only to review the work reported upon for 1900-01.

Accessions for the year were 14,011, of which 10,485 were purchased at a cost of \$9913.96; total 144,625. Issued, home use 740-179, of which 189,306 were drawn from the main issue desk, 140,233 from open shelves, 156,544 from the juvenile department, and 254,096 from the delivery stations; ref. use 49,738. New registration 19,462; total cards in force 51,193, of which 12,934 are held by men. Receipts \$107,250.89 (city appropriation \$79,033.58); expenses \$89,053.67.

An interesting, and well-arranged report. The circulation was considerably affected by the prolonged street-car strike, of May and June, yet there was, nevertheless, a gain of 32,356 in home reading and 3640 in reference use. "Of the total home issue more than one-third (34.3%) of the books were drawn through the delivery stations and depositories; and of the issue on adult cards at the library 42½% consisted of books drawn from the open shelves. For this department, instead of a sort of enlarged alcove, we need a special room with at least ten times the space now available. With such a room adequately supplied with the best books in each line, forming a select library of 15,000 to 25,000 volumes, it is fair to assume that the present percentage would increase to more than 50%. Besides serving the convenience of the public it guides many readers to better books than they would otherwise read. It introduces many to good books which they never heard of before, and which they would not be likely to choose from a catalog."

The use made of library books in the public schools is given special attention, and the report includes a series of interesting statements made by school principals upon the value of library co-operation in this direction. Mr. Crunden also says: "An interesting experiment in the teaching of literature was tried in the St. Louis High School the past season. Principal Bryan applied to the library for as many copies as it could supply of the most popular works of the leading American and English writers of the 19th century. The list consisted chiefly of pure literature, including the best novels of Scott, Hawthorne, Cooper, Bulwer, Kingsley, Dickens, Thackeray, and George Eliot; the essays of Lamb, DeQuincy, Irving and Carlyle; and poetry of Southey, Burns, Wordsworth, Moore, Tennyson, Poe, Holmes, and Whittier. A few historical works were also sent, including those of Parkman, Morley, and Prescott, besides a few histories of Greece and Rome. In all, about 500 volumes, with as many as 10 copies of the more popular books, were supplied. Principal Bryan and vice-principal Schuyler pronounce

the experiment a success, and are this year extending it, especially in the study of history — calling on the library for as many copies of leading histories as can be furnished. Nothing can be more significant than the obvious growth of the pupils in mental grasp under the stimulus and the nourishment of this reading. Mr. Buck reports that in March they could comprehend and enjoy books which they vainly tried to read in November."

*San Francisco (Cal.) Mercantile L.* The library property was on Oct. 9 sold to Henry Kahn, for \$125,000, to be used for hotel purposes. Only a small part of the library collection was stored in the building, the present library headquarters being upon Sutter street.

The Mercantile Library, which was the pioneer institution of its kind in San Francisco, has been most unfortunate in its real estate investments. Organized in 1852 and incorporated in January, 1853, the Mercantile Library led a nomadic existence for many years. In 1865 the trustees determined that the time had come for the association to own a building of its own, and the mistake was made of going deeply into debt, purchasing a lot and building in the down-town business part of the city. By great effort the indebtedness was cleared off, but the competition of the Odd Fellows' and Mechanics' libraries came to be disastrously felt, and the value of the library property became a burden because of the heavy taxation and the fact that the character of the building was not such as to produce sufficient revenue. It was under these conditions that the trustees decided to erect a new building on the northeast corner of Van Ness avenue and Golden Gate avenue. The old property was sold in a depressed market for \$157,000, and the new lot was purchased for \$70,000, nearly \$100,000 additional being expended on the library structure. The experience of the first site was renewed on Van Ness avenue. The location was unpopular, and the inability of the Mercantile Library Association to pay either the principal or the interest of its indebtedness proved to be a millstone around its neck. It was at first found necessary to move out of the building and finally to sacrifice the property to avoid foreclosure of mortgage. As it is, probably not more than \$25,000 will be saved from the wreck.

*Somerville (Mass.) P. L.* The following circular letter has been sent to the various local Sunday-schools and churches:

"The Somerville Public Library has now decided to supply books to all Sunday-schools in Somerville which may desire such service. These books can be selected by any person or persons, designated by the respective Sunday-schools, and can be retained for a period of one month. Any number desired up to 100 may be so selected. No seven-day books can be selected for this service, and the library will retain the privilege of withholding any



other books in great current demand. The Sunday-schools must pay all express charges and be responsible for all damage done to the books.

"If your Sunday-school should desire this service, the public library will be glad to render it."

*Washington (D. C.) P. L.* The Carnegie building will be dedicated on December 16, when it is expected that Andrew Carnegie will be present.

*Waterloo (Ia.) F. P. L.* (4th rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, 1902.) Added 1231; total 6793. Issued, home use 45,473 (fict. 89%). Cards in force 2917. Receipts \$176.76; expenses \$157.80.

#### FOREIGN.

*Bodleian L., Oxford.* Recent articles evoked by the Bodleian tercentenary celebration on Oct. 8 are:

The Bodleian and its founder. *Illustrated London News*, Oct. 11, 121:538-9. il.

The Bodleian commemoration. *Saturday Review*, Oct. 11, 94:452-3.

The Bodleian Library. *Gentleman's Magazine*, October, p. 327-32.

The Bodleian tercentenary. *Fortnightly Review*, October, p. 637-47.

The tercentenary of the Bodleian Library. *Speaker*, Oct. 18, 7:63-4.

*Cambridge University.* On Oct. 26 it was announced that John Morley had presented to Cambridge University the famous private library of the late Lord Acton, which had been the gift of Andrew Carnegie to Mr. Morley. In his letter offering the collection Mr. Morley said: "For some time I played with the fancy of retaining this library for my own use and delectation, but I am not covetous of splendid possessions. Such a collection is more fit for a public and undying institution." He said that Lord Acton's guiding object in the collection of these sixty or seventy thousand volumes was the securing of a history of the gradual substitution of freedom for force in government, and he expressed the desire that its unity be kept intact.

*Hawarden, Wales.* The library at Hawarden erected as a national memorial to the late William E. Gladstone, which cost \$50,000, was opened by Earl Spencer on Oct. 14. It contains Gladstone's private collection. Among the speakers on the occasion was Andrew Carnegie.

*Leeds (Eng.) P. F. Ls.* (32d rpt.—year ending March 25, 1902.) Added 212,396, of which 2325 were added to the ref. lib., 2321 to the central lending lib., and 13,039 to the branches. Issued, home use 366,266 from the central lending lib., and 493,371 from the branches. Visitors to central and branch newsrooms, 1,662,000. Cards issued 30,492. A new branch building was opened at Wood-

house Moor on March 12, in which "a new department of work was inaugurated in what is known as the juvenile reading room."

*Trinity College, Dublin.* DIXON, W. Macneile. Trinity College, Dublin. (College histories.) London, F. E. Robinson & Co., 1902. 17+298 p. 12°.

The chapter on the library of Trinity College (p. 220-233) gives an interesting sketch of its history and contents.

#### Gifts and Bequests.

*Evansville, Wis.* By the will of the late Almeron Eager, of Evansville, Wis., \$10,000 is bequeathed to that town for a free public library, to be known as the Eager Library, and to contain a marble bust of the donor.

*Portsmouth (N. H.) P. L.* By the will of the late Hon. Frank Jones, of Portsmouth, the library will receive a bequest of \$5000.

#### Librarians.

AYER-BLACKWELL. Clarence W. Ayer, librarian of the Brockton (Mass.) Public Library, was married on Oct. 1 to Miss Grace Blackwell, of Brockton.

CAMPBELL, Miss J. Maud, assistant in the reference department of the Newark (N. J.) Free Public Library, has been appointed librarian of the Passaic (N. J.) Public Library, succeeding Miss Cecelia Lambert, resigned. Miss Campbell has been connected with the Newark library, since its opening in its new building 18 months ago. She is a graduate of the Edinburgh Ladies' College, and holds a certificate from Edinburgh University. The engagement has been announced of Miss Lambert, for several years librarian of the Passaic Public Library, and Mr. William Lord Lyall, of Passaic.

CRANE, Walter, librarian of the Carnegie Library of Braddock, Pa., died at his home in Hawkins, Pa., on Oct. 19, aged 45 years. Mr. Crane was born in Rosshire, Scotland, and was educated in Glasgow and in Aberdeen. In 1881 he went to Boston, where he was admitted to the bar, later practicing at the bar. He gave up the law some 14 years ago and went to Joliet, Ill., where he founded a combination club house and library for the working men employed in the steel mill at Joliet. Here he came into connection with Andrew Carnegie, who later placed him in charge of the library and club work at Braddock. He had been a member of the American Library Association for three years. Mr. Crane is survived by a widow and five sons.

HARTSWICK, Howard B., assistant in the Pennsylvania State Library, has resigned that position to take up law practice.

HENLEY, Miss Daisy, has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie Library, of Wabash, Ind., succeeding Mrs. Anna Ziegler, resigned.

MARVIN, Miss Mabel, cataloger at the University of Wisconsin Library, has been appointed librarian of the Jacksonville (Ill.) Public Library.

MEAD, H. Ralph, for two years assistant in the reference department of Cornell University Library, has accepted a position on the library staff at the University of California and began his duties Nov. 1.

REED, Dr. George Edward, state librarian of Pennsylvania, resigned that office on October 26. The resignation was understood to be the result of Dr. Reed's desire to take active part in the campaign for governor. His successor, even if promptly appointed, would not have long to serve, unless reappointed, as Dr. Reed's four years' term of office expires on Jan. 31 next. Dr. Reed is also president of Dickinson College, and has long been prominent in political and educational circles in the state.

STROHM-McCONNELL, Adam J. Strohm, librarian of the Trenton (N. J.) Free Public Library, was married on October 30 to Miss Cecelia McConnell, of Chicago.

WANDELL, Miss Caroline, cataloger at the library of the University of Texas, has been appointed cataloger at the Carnegie Library of Houston, Tex.

### Cataloging and Classification.

BALTIMORE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS. A list of books especially adapted for children and young people. Baltimore, 1902. 25 p. 16°.

This list of 200 books was prepared for the members of the Baltimore Yearly Meeting, whose membership extends through Maryland, Virginia and parts of Pennsylvania. It is classified and annotated. Publishers and prices are given.

The BOSTON BOOK CO. *Bulletin of Bibliography* for October contains "Venice, a bibliography," by Edith H. Cobb, a list of "Best editions of James Russell Lowell," by Martha Thorne Wheeler, and a continuation of Mr. Cole's bibliographical record of "Bermuda in periodical literature."

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for November contains a short reading list on "The Parthenon," and continues its reprinting of historical manuscripts with some interesting letters on the "raising" of bills of credit in 1776, and on bounties to soldiers in 1780.

DETROIT (Mich.) P. L. Municipal affairs: books and articles in the library. 1902. 44 p. nar. O.

A comprehensive classed list, including many analyticals, but exclusive of periodical references and municipal reports.

OSTERHOUT F. L., *Wilkes-Barre, Pa.*, has been publishing in its *Bulletin* a series of excellent lists on Architecture. These have appeared in the *Bulletin* for May, June, September and October.

PATENT OFFICE, *Great Britain*. Subject list of works on the textile industries and wearing apparel, including the culture and chemical technology of textile fabrics, in the Library of the Patent Office. (Patent Office library ser., no. 10; bibliographical ser., no. 7.) London, Patent Office, 1902. 128 p. S. 6d.

PEABODY INSTITUTE, *Baltimore*. Second catalogue of the library, including the additions made since 1882. Part 6, N-R. Baltimore, 1902. p. 3355-4118. 4°.

Among the most extensive subjects in this part of the catalog are New York, state and city, and Pennsylvania.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for October, contains special reading lists on Autobiography and Benjamin Franklin.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE L. *Bulletin* 43: Accessions to the department library, April-June, 1902. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1902. 37 p. (printed on one side.) O.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA publications. Library bulletin no. 1, 3d enl. ed.: Co-operative list of periodical literature in libraries of Central California. Berkeley, Cal., 1902. 130 p. O.

This is a revision and extension of the list issued in earlier editions in 1880 and in 1892, the former covering the periodical sets in nine libraries of San Francisco and vicinity, the latter including the sets in 12 libraries. The present issue covers periodicals in 18 libraries, including one private collection—that of Dr. J. C. Branner, of Stanford University. It is a compact, title-a-line list in one alphabet, giving place of publication, year of issue, and number of volumes. Libraries in which sets may be found are indicated by abbreviations, and the extent of the sets available is also noted. There are about 4500 periodicals represented, at a general estimate; and the list should be a useful guide in its special field.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION. Buying list of recent books, recommended by the library commissions of Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Idaho, Nebraska and Delaware. no. 6, Oct. 15, 1902. 4 p. O.

## FULL NAMES.

*The following are supplied by Catalogue Division, Library of Congress.*

- Abernethy, Julian Willis, 1853- (American literature);  
 Allen, George Hoyt, 1857- (Uncle George's letters to the Garcia Club);  
 Arny, Henry Vinecome, 1868- (A home study course in pharmacy);  
 Bainum, George Washington, 1828- (Songs of the Christ and other poems);  
 Bement, Alburto (Shipping mines and coal railroads of Illinois and Indiana);  
 Bliss, Herbert Ray, 1878- and Anisden, Edward Williams (A book of forms to be used in connection with the study of criminal procedure in the University of Michigan);  
 Brooks, William Penn, 1851- (Agriculture);  
 Brown, Charles Francis, 1880- and Croft, Victor Francis, 1882- (Outline study of United States history);  
 Brown, Elizabeth Virginia (Stories of woods and field);  
 Brundage, Albert Harrison, 1862 (A manual of toxicology);  
 Calhoun, William Patrick (The Caucasian and the Negro in the United States);  
 Cary, George Howard, 1847- (How to make and use the telephone);  
 Clark, Arthur Gerald, 1881- (When bards sing out of time);  
 Chesley, Albert Meader, 1875- (Indoor and outdoor gymnastic games);  
 Collins, Cornelius Francis, 1860- (The municipal court act of the city of New York);  
 Conger, Arthur Bloomfield, 1854- (Religion for the time);  
 Conger, Marvin Ephraim, 1825- (Right generation the goal . . .);  
 Daly, Ida May (Advanced rational speller);  
 Day, Holman Francis, 1865- (Pine tree ballads);  
 Doolittle, William Henry, 1844- (Inventions in the century);  
 Eastman, Ephraim Richard, 1854- (Eastman's poems, original and translated);  
 Elwell, Joseph Bowne, 1874- (Elwell on bridge);  
 Emerson, Edward Randolph, 1856- (The story of the vine);  
 Ewbank, Louis Blasdel, 1864- (Indiana trial evidence);  
 Finegan, Thomas Edward, 1866- (A textbook on New York school law);  
 Forbes, Arthur Holland, 1863- (Architectural gardens of Italy);  
 Fosdick, James William, 1858- (The honor of the Braxtons);  
 Green, Samuel Bowdlear, 1850- (Forestry in Minnesota);  
 Gregg, William Allford, 1854- (Our presidents—their portraits and biographies);  
 Harry, Thomas Everett, 1884- (Infans amoris: the tale of a once sorrowful soul);  
 Higgins, Shelley Eugene, 1858- (A brief outline of the muscles and arteries of the human body);  
 Hoogstraet, Moree E. von, 1860- (For bush or bonnet?);  
 Hopkins, George Irving, 1849- (Inductive plane geometry);  
 Hopkins, Samuel Augustus, 1858- (The care of the teeth);  
 Kerr, William Alexander, 1867- (The law of insurance);  
 Lazell, Theodore Studley, 1871- (Whiting genealogy);  
 Litsey, Edwin Carlile, 1874 (The love story of Abner Stone);  
 Lloyd, Herbert Marshall, 1862-, *ed.* (League of the Ho-de-no-sau-nee, or Iroquois, by Lewis H. Morgan . . .);  
 Mabry, William Dudley, 1848- (When love is king);  
 McConnell, Marie Florence (Some essentials in musical definitions);  
 Mason, William Lesley, 1861- (How to become a law stenographer);  
 Moore, Mrs. Eliza Needles (Bentley), 1843- (Annals of Sandy Spring, Md.);  
 Morten, William Henry, 1846- (Haps and mishaps of Jack Haselton);  
 Noble, John, jr., 1875- (Notes on the law of charity trusts, under Massachusetts decisions);  
 Peck, Arthur Elsworth, 1863- (Porcelain inlay);  
 Phillips, Walter Shelley, 1867- (Indian fairy tales);  
 Priegel, Louis Ernest, 1873- (The baker's trade simplified);  
 Putnam, Israel, 1878- (Daniel Everton, volunteer-regular);  
 Riggs, Sara May, 1860- (Studies in United States history);  
 Rosenberger, Jesse Leonard, 1860- (Law for lumberman);  
 Sensenig, David Martin, 1840-, and Anderson, Robert Franklin, 1866- (Essentials of arithmetic);  
 Shaw, Angus Robertson, 1858- (Theology for the people);  
 Shumaker, Walter Adams (The cyclopedic dictionary of law);  
 Skinner, Wells Hawks, and Burgert, Celia May (Lessons in English);  
 Smith, Chester William, 1852- (Summer of Saturdays);  
 Stutzbach, Martin Herman, 1852- (Acts of assembly relating to and affecting building associations in Pennsylvania);  
 Tinley, James Walter, 1866- (The influence of a single life);  
 Transue, Guy Edson, 1861 (The academic review of arithmetic);  
 Waters, William Everett, 1856- (Cena Trimalchionis of Petronius, ed. . . by W. E. Waters);  
 Weaver, Benjamin Franklin, 1839- (Physical atlas; or, practical family doctor book);  
 Williamson, John Poage, 1835- (An English Dakota dictionary);  
 Womack, Thomas Brown, 1855 (Womack's North Carolina digest);  
 Wooldridge, Charles William, 1847- (Perfecting the earth);  
 Young, Gustaf Aron, 1865- (Hjälpreda för bibelskolan).

### Bibliography.

**DRAGON-FLIES.** Harvey, Frances LeRoy. A catalogue and bibliography of the odonata (dragon-flies) of Maine, with an annotated list of their collectors. (University of Maine studies, no. 4.) Orono, Me., August, 1902. 16 p. O.

The bibliography covers four pages, and is arranged by authors.

**EDUCATION.** Cubberley, Elwood P. Syllabus of lectures on the history of education, with selected bibliographies. New York, Macmillan Co., 1902. 129 p. 4°.

There is a general bibliography of four pages, with special bibliographies for the lectures.

— WYER, J. I. Recent educational bibliography. (*In School Review*, October, 10: 605-614.)

This fifth annual summary gives a critical account of 16 recent bibliographies on education.

**FOSSILS.** Hay, Oliver Perry. Bibliography and catalogue of the fossil vertebrata of North America. (Bulletin U. S. Geological Survey, 179.) 877 p. O. 45 c.

Contains bibliography and catalog of all the species of fossil vertebrates which have been described, up to the end of 1900, from all that part of the continent of North America lying north of Mexico.

**FRENCH, Henry.** Of bibliophilism and the preservation of books. (*In The Bibliographer*, October. 1:304-8.)

**GEOGRAPHY.** The bibliography of geographical literature for the year 1901, published in the September number of the *Annales de Géographie*, makes the eleventh annual issue of this useful record. It includes titles of more than 1000 publications, in 14 languages, most of them annotated. The editor is M. Louis Raveneau, who has been aided by 55 collaborators of various nationalities. The list is classified according to subjects and countries, with numerous cross-references and an index of about 2000 names of travellers and authors whose works have been recorded and analyzed.

**NEGRO.** Tillinghast, Joseph Alexander. The negro in Africa and America. (*In Publications of the American Economic Association*, May, 1902 [published in October], 3d ser., vol. 3.) 231 p. 8°.

Contains a 3-page bibliography covering the negro in West Africa, The negro under American slavery, and The negro as a free citizen.

**NIAGARA.** The fifth volume of the "Publications" of the Buffalo Historical Society,

edited by Frank H. Severance, secretary (Buffalo, 1902), contains (p. 433-95) a valuable bibliography entitled "Contributions toward a bibliography of the Niagara region: the Upper Canada rebellion of 1837-8." It is remarkably complete, with annotations for the more important titles, and reproduction of title-pages of rare volumes.

**PERIODICAL LITERATURE.** Marillier, Harry Currie. University magazines and their makers: being a paper read before the Sette of Odd Volumes. London, Howard Wilford Bell, 1902. 95 p. 24°.

Pages 71-93 contain a synopsis of the Oxford and Cambridge university undergraduate magazines and periodicals, from 1643 to 1899, with remarks as to the character, the number published and, in many cases, the chief contributors to each.

**SAVINGS BANKS.** Hamilton, James Henry. Savings and earnings institutions. New York, Macmillan Co., 1902. 436 p. 12°.

Contains a 4-page selected bibliography.

**WINSOR, Justin.** Yust, W: F. A bibliography of Justin Winsor, superintendent of the Boston Public Library, 1868-1877, librarian of Harvard University, 1877-1897. (Library of Harvard University: Bibliographical contributions, ed. by W: C. Lane, no. 4.) Cambridge, Library of Harvard University, 1902. 32 p. O.

It is a pleasure to note the resumption, after a four years' interval, of the valuable series of Harvard bibliographical contributions, and it is especially fitting that this number should record the literary activities of the man under whose direction the previous issues were prepared. Mr. Yust's bibliography is a most careful piece of work, and reveals to a surprising extent the variety of Mr. Winsor's literary work and the course of its development. The record is chronological, the first entry being the "History of the town of Duxbury," published in 1849, before Winsor entered college; from 1852 to 1868, it is made up of literary articles, reviews, verse, and metrical translations from the German; from 1867, when Mr. Winsor's first connection with the Boston Public Library began, bibliographical subjects dominate, and from 1878 to 1897 covers the period of his historical work. A list of obituary and biographical notices of Mr. Winsor is appended. Titles listed are given as fully as possible, and great pains have evidently been taken to trace fugitive writings and verify dates.

**WOMEN.** Bibliographisches Verzeichniss der französischen Litteratur über die Frauenfrage; von Tony Kellen. (*In Börsenblatt*, Oct. 3. 4. 1902. p. 7899-7903. 7940-7941; concluded Oct. 10, p. 8140-46.)

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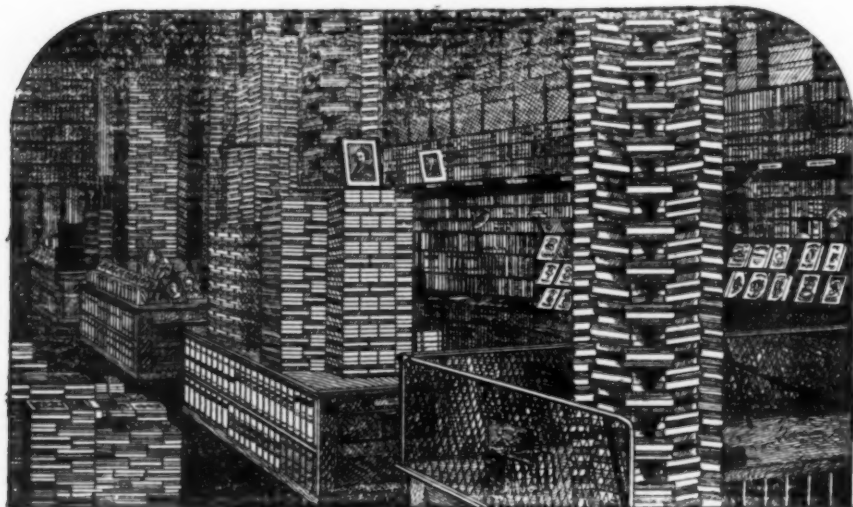
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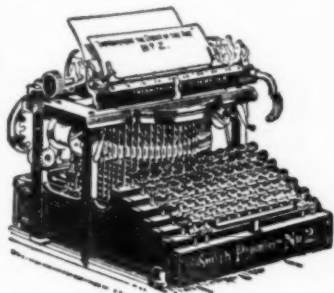
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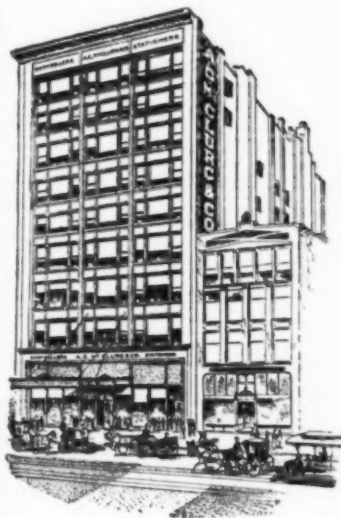
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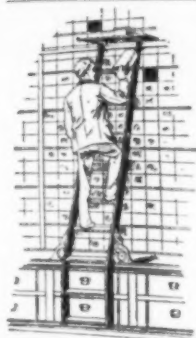
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